

# Heroes In omespun

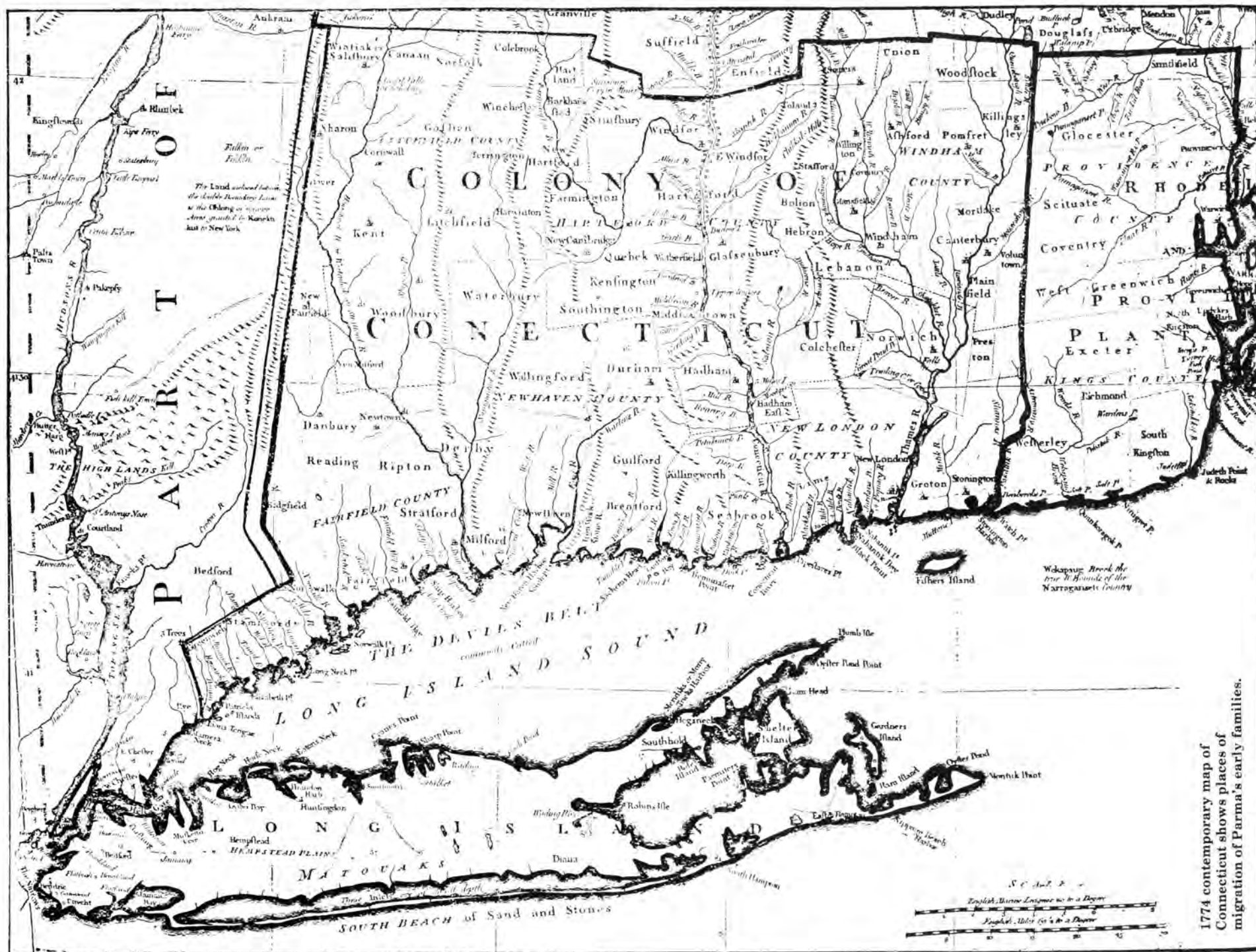


The Story of Parma's Revolutionary War Heroes  
with a military roster of names and a roster of uniforms

by  
**SHIRLEY COX HUSTED**  
Parma Town Historian

Illustrations and cover design by **DAVID ABBOTT**





1774 contemporary map of Connecticut shows places of migration of Parma's early families.

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## DEDICATION

With pride and love and admiration this book is respectfully dedicated to the memory of George Washington and his Continental Army, and to all the American military, past and present . . . to each and all of those valiant men—both known and unknown—who served to win and preserve our American freedoms . . . particularly to my own beloved ancestor, William Cox of Elbridge, N.Y., a Revolutionary soldier whose paternity made this publication possible . . . and especially dedicated to those who at some period of their lifetime dwelt in the township of Parma, N.Y.—with, moreover, a very heartfelt salute to all the women who loved them!

Parma Center, April 19, 1975

"200 years of American allegiance  
since Lexington & Concord's  
immortal stand on April 19, 1775"

## FORWARD . . .

With their sons, they had tamed a wilderness . . . and their grandsons would rule it! Their wives and daughters and granddaughters would produce new generations and leaders of Tomorrow, continuing the legacy of progress their pioneer years made possible.

But the names of those heroes in homespun who risked all to kindle Freedom's holy light would be almost forgotten, extinguished for nearly two centuries, disregarded until, suddenly, an historic bicentennial era demanded recognition. Now, as a grateful nation remembers and wonders about them, only 23 can be listed, although others must have dwelt and died among us, or traveled onward, lured by the mystic clarion call of the great, undeveloped West.

This, then, is the tale of Parma's 23 forgotten heroes.

"Few among this generation little care  
how lived and died  
Those who fled from Revolution, spirits  
true and spirits tried,  
Or of loves and lives all ended, orbs  
of hope forever set:  
These the poet and historian cannot let  
the world forget."  
William James' Scrapbook

**THE COVER ILLUSTRATION** emphasizes the fine uniform of Major General Israel Putnam and the worn, tattered clothing of the foot soldier, in this case, his distant cousin, Reuben Putnam, wilderness scout. In the fall of 1777, General Putnam was exploring the Hudson River terrain, seeking sites for future fortifications. As Gentleman Johnny Burgoyne's army swept down from Canada and as Clinton approached from the south in an attempted pincers movement, General Putnam moved his men from Peekskill, marching upriver towards Saratoga in order to put his forces between those of Clinton and Gates. Reuben Putnam served as a scout for Colonel Webb's company during this march. As Clinton retreated, the army retraced its steps to Peekskill and shortly thereafter, Israel designated the site of West Point. Construction of Fort Putnam began in the spring. The artist has created an imaginary episode in the Hudson River highlands, as the aging Major General shows his relative his chosen spot for a fortress.

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\*Military names and some New England personages are not indexed. For additional family genealogy, consult the files of the Parma Town Historian.





## HEROES IN HOMESPUN

by SHIRLEY COX HUSTED

*"Long may our land be bright  
With Freedom's holy light:  
Protect us by Thy might,  
Great God, our King!"*  
(America)

They were heroes in homespun: a generation of poor but worthy British farmers, dedicated, hard-working patriots, but very ordinary men, none "to the manner born," extremely poor in this world's material possessions—yet nobly rich in their independence, proud in the knowledge that they served no monarch, no ruler except God himself.

The angry fires of war had sputtered out, the ashes of hatred were cold, George Washington had become president, and now the winds of change were blowing across America. To generations that had previously been locked to the seacoast and the rocky hills of New England, those stirring, independent winds promised a new unfettered life somewhere in the unsettled western frontier of New York State. And so they came into this wilderness, weary of scratching a bleak harvest from the thin, stony Connecticut soil, undismayed by the loneliness and dangers of an untamed frontier, for they were fearless men. The musket, blanket, powderhorn and prayers that had once taken them through a revolution, would serve as well now in the wilderness. With only a homespun hunting jacket and breeches, shirtless, barefoot, with only a flintlock gun or axe, sometimes fighting with rocks and gun butts, seldom in uniform, often with little to eat and even less to hope for, they had nevertheless conquered Britain's fiercest grenadiers. Now, they would conquer a continent! With the battlescarred flintlock gun and a broadaxe, perhaps escorting a rude oxcart and an enormous family of assorted ages, they set forth boldly, following streams and Indian trails.

The first ones came unheralded, unnoticed as they plodded their way westward in the twilight years of the 18th century, while the forests were still thick and green, sweeping like a lush emerald carpet across the old Iroquois lake basin. Doves of blue-winged Passenger Pigeons flew in enormous flocks, dark against the sun. Plump silvery salmon swam undisturbed in crystal streams. Deer, bears and panthers ran unchallenged, and the haunting cry of the lordly grey wolf echoed unheard through the lonely nights. Unsung, unknown heroes, they became pioneers of a township then known as Northampton, but renamed in 1808 after the province of Parma, Italy. The last one died in 1864 at the ripe age of 100 years, having lived a full century, rich in wisdom, pride and memories.

They left us few written records, no pictures; today we can find but few reminders of their existence, for even the rude cabins where they breathed their last precious breaths of freedom have disappeared. Some of their tombstones have vanished, if indeed they ever existed. Some left no descendants to carry on their names.

But if their names and their faces and their memories and even their last monuments were ephemeral, their legacy to us was not: it was Freedom's Holy Light—and it still shines brilliantly in the new America they created. God willing, it will always illuminate our horizons.

"... the mass of early pioneers came on poor, with nothing to lose but much to gain. Fresh from service in the ranks, and animated by hope of a glorious future for their country, many a soldier came west to Monroe, and the rifle which had aided to check the march of Burgoyne and compel the surrender of Cornwallis, provided the family with venison and guarded the crops from depredations."

Prof. MacIntosh, 1877

## THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF

WOMEN in the Revolution has been largely unmentioned by historians. Many wives and children accompanied the armies, serving as nurses, laundresses, seamstresses, beasts of burden, cooks and munitions makers. Others worked with great dedication on the home front. Band music, toasts and a 32-cannon salute had accompanied the dedication of the equestrian statue of His Majesty King George III at New York City's Bowling Green on the occasion of his father's birthday, August 21, 1770. The noted Mr. Wilton's gilded lead masterpiece was rudely broken from its base by a delegation from the Sons of Liberty following the reading of the Declaration of Independence on July 9, 1776. The precious fragments were converted into bullets in the orchard behind General Oliver Wolcott's home in Litchfield, Ct. by his children, Laura, Mary Ann and Frederick, their friends, Ruth Marvin, Mrs. Marvin and Mrs. Beach, and sundry other persons. Through their efforts, 42,088 cartridge balls were poured and hardened in soapstone molds to furnish ammunition for the fledgling army.

## Michael Beach's White Gold

Michael Beach came first.

Turner's "History of the Phelps and Gorham's Purchase" lists his arrival date as 1795, the year previous to the arrival of the Atchinson family. Other histories report his arrival in 1796. Perhaps Judge Samuel Castle was correct when he told Turner the year was 1795, for other relatives of Goshen, Connecticut, some of them Michael's distant relatives, did visit Western New York in 1795, seeking locations for investment and settlement. Certainly the young father might have left his native Goshen in order to make a small clearing in 1795 and then returned with his family in the spring, a reasonable precaution, since Mrs. Beach was pregnant. If so, then Michael Beach was the first white pioneer in Parma.

On January 3, 1796, his sixth child, Silas Beach, was born. That fall, on October 17, 1796, Michael Beach, Philip Kennedy, Isaac Beach and the Atchinson brothers, Bezaleel, Stephen and John, personally signed their names to deed transactions at the land office in Canandaigua. The deed records copied in Peter Porter's neat and rolling script list the sale to "Michael Beach, farmer, of Ontario County" of lot 6, range 4, a 164½ acre farm at the northeast corner of Peck Road and Route 259, for \$500. This indicates that Michael Beach already had crops growing on this fertile land by the old Canawaugus Indian Trail: a farmsite that in the 20th century became noted as the Wondergem farm, producing luscious melons and vegetables nearly two centuries later.

More important to Michael than its fertility was the fact that it contained a salt spring. Michael Beach well knew the great importance of salt. It was scarce, valuable and indispensable to life . . . during the American Revolution his uncle, Captain John Beach, had traveled long distances to haul salt from Boston to Goshen, bringing the state's allotment of this precious and strictly rationed commodity so necessary for preserving meat, feeding livestock and making salt petre for gunpowder. So he chose the site that had a vein of white gold springing merrily from the good earth's bosom.

Directly south, occupying the southeast corner of Peck Road and 259, Michael's cousin, Isaac Beach, bought 175 acres, lot 7, range 4, paying approximately \$530 for it, but quickly signing it back over to Michael on December 12th, for \$800, an appreciable jump in valuation. When the same lot was resold to Abraham Castle on July 16, 1810, it was referred to as: "the Michael Beach farm," and it sold for \$1,164. Probably it was here that Michael built his log homestead, a cabin in which the first religious services in Parma were held one Sunday in 1804 by Elder Hill, a Methodist parson. The first schoolhouse was also located on the Beach farm, either in Michael's home or in a separate log structure, conceivably his initial shelter which he might have abandoned for larger quarters.

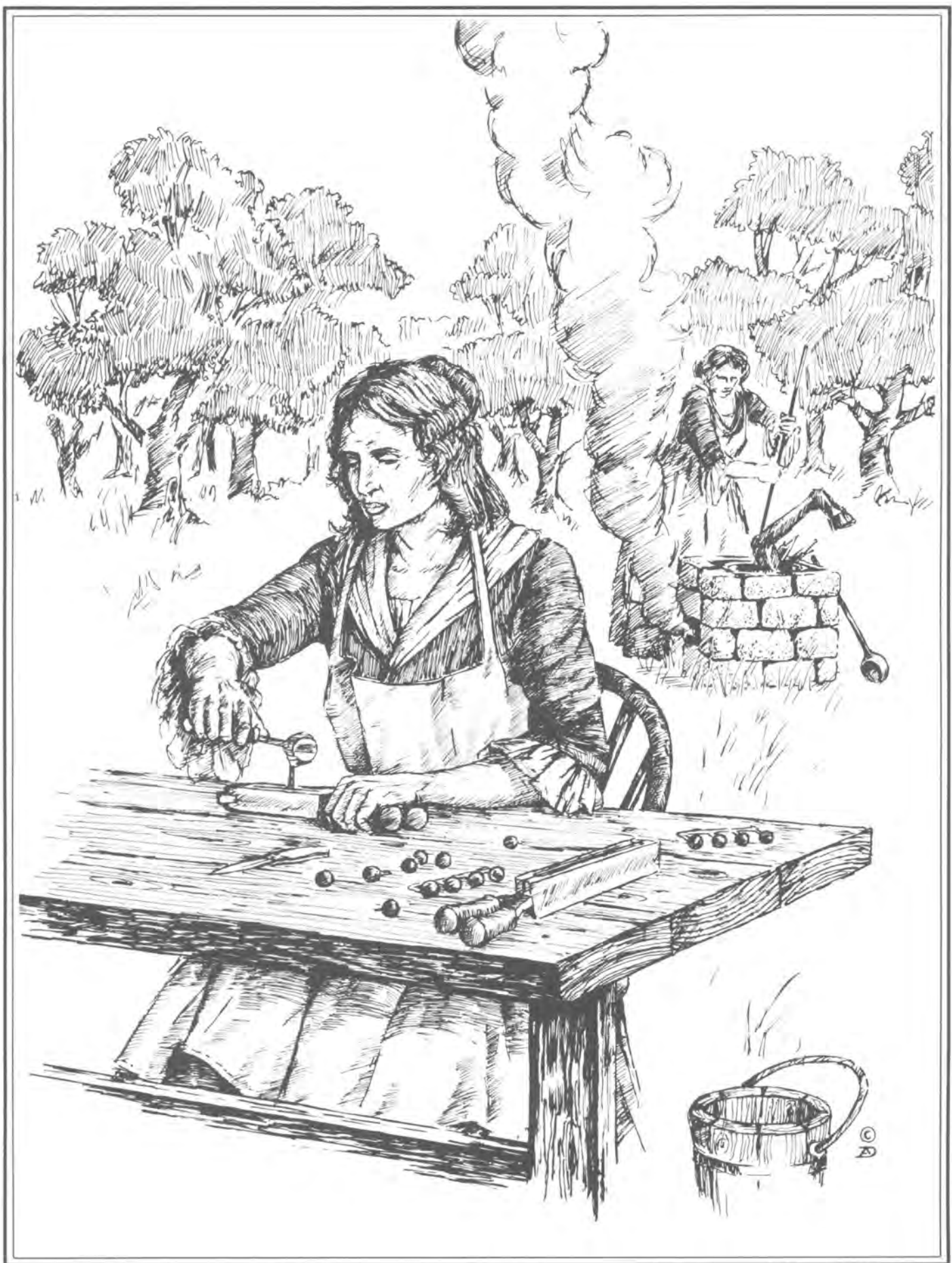
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Romantic tradition holds that a foundling picked up on the sea shore after a wreck at Wales was adopted by a wealthy nobleman and named "Beach." Genealogists trace the family to the De La Beche family of France, a family which came to England in 1066 with William the Conqueror. Early settlers of New Haven (Quinnipiac) in Connecticut were the brothers Richard, John and Thomas Beach, who arrived in 1637-8. Richard, the oldest, later settled in New Jersey, while Thomas, the youngest, a shoemaker, moved nine miles west to Milford, Ct. in 1654. The community gave him one acre on old Main Street, where he built a fine cobblestone house. John purchased land at Stratford and Wallingford.

John<sup>2</sup>, son of Thomas<sup>1</sup>, became a Wallingford resident in 1673-4, and there his fifth child John<sup>3</sup>, born in 1690, grew to manhood, married Sarah Tyler and produced Barnabus. Sarah Tyler died shortly after the birth of Barnabus and John<sup>3</sup> later married Mary Royce. Among their 11 children was Linus<sup>4</sup>, father of Michael Beach<sup>5</sup>.

In 1738, John Beach<sup>3</sup> became one of the founders of Goshen. His 103½ acres were located on the east side of East Street, northeast of a cemetery which still exists. At his pallisaded log house a church was organized in 1740. He moderated the first town meeting, was captain of the Train Band (militia), justice of the peace, selectman and assemblyman, 1757-1765. His fourth son, Linus, born 1721, married Dinah Royce, a first cousin (also called Rice). John's fifth son, Amos, married





Sarah Royce (Rice) and served with his nephew, Michael, in the Revolution. Altogether, 16 Beach relatives served in the War for Independence, and five died in its battles.

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Michael Beach was born February 3, 1756, to Linus and Dinah Beach, and wed Eunice Hester (also listed as Unice Herter) on April 7, 1773. Unquestionably, his was a patriotic family. His younger brother, Martin, died November 8, 1776 of camp sickness on a British prison ship. An older sister, Dinah, married Stephen Mix, a veteran of seven or eight years of service in the Revolution, and later a New York pioneer. Evidence that the distaff side of the Beach clan was ardently patriotic is the fact that when Wilton's famed equestrian lead statue of King George III was torn down from its pedestal on Bowling Green in New York City in the jubilation following the reading of the Declaration of Independence there on July 9, 1776, most of it was melted down and made into bullets at the Oliver Wolcott residence in Litchfield. A Mrs. Beach personally poured 1, 818 bullets. The gilded statue's lead fragments, converted by Dr. Wolcott's women patriots into 42,088 cartridges of "molten majesty," helped win the Battle of Saratoga.

The tragic events at Lexington and Concord in April, 1775, inspired a confidential meeting of the Provincial Assembly of Connecticut at Hartford. Several members agreed to attempt the seizure of Ft. Ticonderoga, a poorly guarded British fort at the junction of Lake George, Lake Champlain and the rivers forming the water route from Canada. Cannon were urgently needed for the ragtag army gathering at Cambridge and Roxbury, Massachusetts, effecting a siege of Boston, where Gage's ashamed grenadiers, had been harried into sanctuary by New England's embattled farmers. Benedict Arnold, a brilliant patriot leader until his tragic defection, was promised \$1,000 from the provincial treasury if he could capture the wilderness fortress.

Meanwhile, the same idea occurred to Ethan Allen, a vigilante leader of the border wars in the Hampshire Grants (later Vermont) where settlers had been struggling to retain possession of properties given to them by the governor of New Hampshire, but now claimed by New York. Allen had already embarked from Bennington on the selfsame mission, leading his rugged rabble in homespun and buckskin, himself clad in a bright green coat with golden epaulets, a suitable uniform for his gigantic physique. Arnold found the Green Mountain Men at Castleton, about 20 miles from the fort. After much argument, they agreed to share the command.

About 270 men marched towards the old French Fort, erected in 1756 and taken from them by General Sir Jeffrey Amherst in 1759. Now deteriorating with a skeleton garrison, it was a sitting duck. But because only two boats could be found to ferry the army, only 83 men had been transported across the lake in the rain-swept night with Allen and Arnold, as dawn approached. Realizing they could not wait for the entire body, the attack began posthaste, guided by a local youth, Nathan Beman.

Only the sentry offered resistance, as the triumphant patriots swept into the sleeping 48-man garrison about 3:30 a.m. Allen rapped three times with his sword hilt upon Captain Delaplane's door, and as his startled subaltern, Lt. Feltham, appeared with his trousers in his hand, Nathan waved his sword dramatically overhead and demanded somewhat pompously that the fort be surrendered "... in the name of the Great Jehovah and the Continental Congress, by God!" (Neither had really given him permission to make that demand!) His brazen courage triumphed, and as sunlight replaced the grey dawn that May 10th in the year of His Royal Majesty's reign, 1775, the conquerors found that they had secured for the Continental cause all of King George's possessions at Fort Ticonderoga, including 120 iron cannon, 50 swivels, two 10" mortars, 1 howitzer, 1 cohorn, ten tons of musket balls, three cartloads of flints, 30 new carriages, shells, a warehouse of boat building materials, 100 stand of small arms, ten casks of powder, two brass cannon, 30 barrels of flour, 18 barrels of pork, beans and peas and last but not least, some 90 gallons of rum. A riotous carousal followed, then a detachment set off to capture the fort at Crown Point, further up the lake. That fortress fell on the 12th. On the afternoon of May 10, the prisoners were taken to Hartford, and the process of "holding the fort" began.

That fall, General Washington ordered a stout Boston bookseller, Henry Knox, now his Colonel of Artillery, to bring the captured armaments to the lines at Cambridge. Receiving his orders November 16, he set off with dispatch and reached Fort Ti on December 5th. By the 9th of December, the scows were loaded and removal began. It was these guns, frowning from the rude ramparts at Cambridge and Roxbury, that helped drive the British from Boston. Much of the captured artillery proved useless, but 78 pieces, six mortars and three howitzers, were serviceable.

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In April and May, enlistments had been taken in Litchfield County, Connecticut. Edmund Beach, a militia drummer, and Ambrose Beach, son of Amos Beach, signed up to serve, as did their cousin, Michael Beach. Asaph Hall, a member of the Committee of Correspondence who had participated personally in the attack on Ti, was their first lieutenant of the 6th Company, 4th Regiment, under Colonel Benjamin Hinman. Governor Trumbull and the Continental Congress asked this company to secure Ti and Crown Point, and the full regiment started May 31, spending the first night at Canaan, and reaching the fort in June, where Colonel Hinman commanded until General Schuyler arrived. The unit took part in the operations of the northern department until their terms expired in December.

Michael Beach's role is uncertain, but a D. A. R. report shows that he maintained a cannon after several other artillerymen fell, and in so doing lost his hearing. If this report is true, he probably joined the attack on Canada. He was a member of Captain Josiah Starr's Company, a private in the 6th Company, 4th Regiment, Continental Line, under Colonel Hinman. Unpublished war records at the Connecticut State Library in Hartford show a receipt given Michael for his gun, which he turned in at Ft. Ti November 24, 1775, receiving two pounds, six shillings, and documenting his military service. His cousins, Amos and Edmund, also turned in guns that day. It was Amos's son, Chauncey Beach, who later built mills at Goshen, Ct., and East Bloomfield, N.Y. and fathered Theron, who married Birdsey Norton's widow in 1815. Michael later served with the 2nd Claverack Battalion, 8th Regiment, Albany County Militia, Colonel Robert Van Renssalaer.

Dominating a hillside on Route 4 at Goshen, now functioning as Birdsey Hall Antiques, stands a resplendent brick mansion built by Birdsey Norton in 1802. With its gorgeous marble steps and mantels, splendid carvings and Palladian windows, the mansion now owned by Fred Favorite is a handsome structure. Birdsey's large mercantile business thrived and he later established a store at Canandaigua, N.Y. in partnership with Nathaniel Norton. Theron Beach became its clerk. Birdsey dabbled in Parma real estate before his death, March 27, 1812, and at one time owned Michael's farm as well as land at Parma Center.

Birdsey's nephew, Lewis Mills, established this nation's first cheese factory in 1844 at Goshen, producing pineapple shaped cheeses which made Goshen famous. Birdsey's brother, Miles, and his father, Colonel Ebenezer Norton, died in the summer of 1795, having contracted malaria while visiting potential sites for settlement in western New York state. The Nortons, Beaches, Hales, Buells, Collins's and Wadhams families, along with those of Curtis, Coe, Lewis, Beehler, Hills, Bailey, Sheldon, Newell, Baldwin, Hill, Frisbie, Judd, Palmer, Lacey and Peck, all Goshenites, later apparently had kin living in Parma. The early progenitors of these families lie buried in the little country cemetery near Birdsey Hall. A memorial stone there honors Cyprian Collins, father of Typhene Collins, the mother of Jonathan Wadhams, who married Olive Norton and came to Parma to establish a mill business. On land donated from his property was built the Wadhams district schoolhouse, on Parma-Clarkson Town Line Road. Cyprian accompanied Captain Luther Stoddard's and Captain Titus Watson's troops on their departure for the ill-fated siege of Quebec. Collins was a teamster, carrying baggage with a team of three cattle pulling his sled.

Ambrose, John and Israel Beach died on that ambitious expedition which left Goshen February 1st or 2nd, 1776. Michael's brother, Martin, died after the battle of Long Island, 1776. Martin stood guard duty the night before the Flatbush battle, while Edmund and Ashbel Beach and Timothy Buell escaped with Washington's men, crossing the river in the dark night.



Jonathan Wadhams' grandfather, Jonathan Wadhams, Sr., marched with the Goshen men to the raid at Danbury, Connecticut, found the community in flames, and brought home a pair of flatirons in his saddle bags. Although they had been confiscated from a Tory house, his wives and daughters conscientiously refused to use the flat irons.

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When Michael Beach purchased his Parma lands in 1796, he gave back to Charles Williamson, land agent, a mortgage for 198 pounds, 14 shillings, payable with interest October 1, 1801, on lot 6. There was a mortgage of 211 pounds, 10 shillings plus interest on the adjacent land (lot 7) which he had purchased from Isaac Beach. On October 9, 1803, Michael and his third wife, Easter (Esther) allowed both lots to revert to the British owner, Governor William Hornby, for \$1, on the condition that Hornby pay off the mortgages due to Charles Williamson. The Atchinsons also let part of their lands revert under the same arrangement. Hard times must have made payment impossible. But the Beaches continued to live on those lands until about 1808. On February 17, 1809, John Hornby's attorney, John Greig of Canandaigua, sold lot 7 to Birdsey Norton and Heman Norton of Goshen. These prominent citizens and relatives by marriage paid \$437.50 and reaped a handsome profit when Castle bought the farm.

Eliza(beth) Castle was Michael Beach's second wife. Michael's family included Shelton, born in 1784, Goshen; Michael, Jr., born 1787, Salisbury, Ct., who died young; a second Michael born in 1790 in Claverack, Columbia County, N.Y. (this Michael Jr. married Lucy Davis and died in 1855 at Highland Michigan, having service in the War of 1812, as did his brother, Reuben Castle, born in 1793, died 1863 at Troy, Michigan, and wed first to Polly Ann Griggs, then to Marietta Davis, Lucy's sister.) Silas Beach was born in 1796, Samuel in 1798 (married one of the Tylers and died in Saginaw County, Michigan). Ester was born in 1805, and Michael's last born, Philo, never married. Michael Beach served Parma as an assessor in 1800, an election inspector and fence viewer in 1802, overseer of highways in 1804, fenceviewer and pound keeper in 1806. On November 27, 1827, he was in Michigan when he signed a petition asking for the construction of a canal from Detroit to Lake Michigan.

About the time that the Castles took over the Peck Road farm, Michael's name began appearing along with those of his family in the Pittsford Congregational Church records. He joined the church in 1809 and in 1814 served as their delegate to a church conference. In 1811, he signed a call for a preacher for Perinton. It is believed that he lived both in Perinton and Pittsford, but there are no records of land purchases.

Mr. Beach joined the Parma and Greece Congregational Church in 1820, and was dismissed in 1825, "being about to leave the country." He must have returned to Parma from Michigan, for in the 1830 census he was living next to his relative, Stephen Atchinson, at the Atchinson settlement. Sam Castle said when interviewed in 1851 that Michael "died a few years since in Clarendon," but no record of his death and no tombstone can be found at Clarendon, N.Y., or in Clarendon, Michigan.

When Stephen Atchinson's wife, Ann, died in 1828 leaving him with a large family, he soon remarried. One record lists his wife as Anna Castle. The Atchinson family Bible lists Anna Beach as Stephen's wife. Shortly thereafter, Stephen moved to Illinois. Michael could have gone with them, or he could have ended his days in the old Atchinson settlement, thence to lie in an unmarked grave in the old Atchinson cemetery. The final resting place of the wives of this frontiersman also remains a mystery.

Michael Beach, pioneer, had ruined his precious salt spring by digging too deeply in an effort to increase the flow of water. He had lost his properties and probably died in poverty, rich in the Christian faith he and his progenitors had so ardently propagated, but poor in the material possessions of this world, place of death unknown.

Sleep in peace, Michael Beach, our first Revolutionary pioneer . . . you founded a township, a church, a school and you helped plant our first apple orchards. All these have disappeared. But your legacy endures. Wherever you are now, rest in peace.

## Abraham Castle: Killed in Action

"Balls would not hit Woodbury boys!" claimed the slogan proudly banded about Woodbury, Connecticut in the 1770s. Colonel Benjamin Hinman's Company from Woodbury, Kent and New Milford, Connecticut considered it their talisman, for few Woodbury residents ever received injuries despite the many battles they engaged in.

One of those fortunate Woodbury lads was Abraham (Abram) Castle, born in 1743 at Roxbury, town of Woodbury, Litchfield County, Connecticut. He died in Parma, August 27, 1812, according to the Monroe County Veterans' Graves Registry records, which carry the annotation: "Killed in Action." As no battles are known to have been fought on that date, either the information is incorrect, the date is wrong, or he died a lingering or accidental death. But if the notation is correct, then the ancient slogan seems to have been disproved.

The Graves Registry records list Abram as a soldier of the American Revolution as well as the War of 1812, although no details of his early military career have been located. General Washington ordered all of the western Connecticut militia from the ages of 16 to 60 to join his forces in New York in August, 1776. Probably he marched with that Connecticut army of nearly 20,000 men.

The Castle family saw service also in the French and Indian War, for Samuel and Lemuel Castle were among Captain Wait Hinman's Woodbury men who marched to relieve Ft. William Henry when it was attacked by the French in 1757. Samuel is listed as a member of the short levies for Connecticut in 1779, while Timothy and William served as Roxbury Minute Men in 1776. Lemuel Castle took up extensive holdings in Ontario County after the Revolution, while Abraham's family pioneered at what was once known as Castle's Corners, later as Hunt's Corners, where Castles, Hunts, Pecks and Smiths had migrated from Roxbury to establish a crossroads cluster of log cabins at the intersection of Peck Road and Route 259. Truman Hunt's homestead remains one of Parma's outstanding structures, as does Judge Castle's Greek Revival farmhouse across the street, on the southeast corner. The 1852 map of Parma shows the residences of Judge Samuel (Squire) Castle on that corner, followed in sequence proceeding east on the south side of Peck Road by the homes of Isaac Castle, Jr.; William C. Castle, Nelson Castle, George W. Patterson and Jehiel E. Castle. A. B. Castle and J. Castle lived on the north side of Peck Road, near Dean Road.

When the 1855 census was taken, Darwin S. Castle was living in the prestigious cobblestone house which his parents, Isaac and Laura, built near Manitou Road in 1833. By then, it was valued at \$500. Nearby, Darwin's cousin, Lorenzo, born in 1818, was living in a log cabin valued at \$21.

Abraham Castle was a descendant of Henry Castle, 1613-1679, born in England and an early settler of New England (1635). On the lower road by the hill at Roxbury, the numerous progeny of Henry Castle had settled by the early 1700s. Henry, Samuel, Daniel and John Hunt founded the first religious society at Roxbury November 20, 1743. Henry's son, Isaac, produced a Samuel who fathered David. Abraham produced Abraham, Jr. (married Hannah); Elva Ruggles, Samuel (married Ruby Seeley); Matthew, Isaac (married Laura Williams); Jehiel (married Nancy). In 1813 Abraham Jr. was a Parma pathmaster, Isaac served as pathmaster in 1823 and the first town meeting after Ogden separated itself from Parma was held in 1817 at the home of Jehiel, who was pathmaster in 1820 and 1822.

Brothers Abraham, Samuel and Isaac came to Parma together in October, 1810, followed by Jehiel and Abraham, Sr. about 1811 and Nelson about 1813. Matthew was still in Washington, Litchfield County, Ct., when Abraham's estate was settled in 1816.

Early Genesee County deeds reveal that on February 17, 1809, Birdsey and Heman Norton purchased the former Michael Beach farm on the southeast corner of Peck Road and Hilton-Parma Road from John Hornby, through his attorney, John Greig. The 175-acre farmstead in lot 7, range 4, sold for \$437.50. The Nortons turned a neat profit when they resold it to Abraham Castle of Roxbury July 16, 1810 for \$1,164. Eber F. Norton, Samuel Castle and Eliphalet Taylor witnessed the transaction.



HON. ABNER I. WOOD.



SAMUEL CASTLE.



MRS. SAMUEL CASTLE.

When Abraham's heirs, Abraham and Hannah, Samuel and Ruby, Arnold Markham, Isaac and Laura, Elisha and Joanna Fulton, Jehiel and Nancy settled the estate and subdivided the farm in 1816, 21 rods were reserved for the burying ground, and set off to Isaac Castle, administrator. Abraham was the first burial in the northeast corner of the cemetery on Jehiel's farm, where his wife, Johanna, was interred by his side upon her death, September 14, 1817. On April 26, 1838, Jehiel sold for \$30 one-half acre plus eight rods of ground to Abraham Castle, Jr.; Andrew Cobb, Isaac Chase, Jr.; Elisha Fulton and George A. Sornberger, trustees of the burying ground, which now was described as beginning on the west creek bank, a fenced cemetery 8x11 rods.

Abraham's son, Samuel, became captain of the Monroe County militia in 1822, heading the 178th regiment under Colonel Austin Spencer. A young Lemuel became an ensign in 1814 in Lt. Colonel John Atchinsons' Genesee County regiment. Isaac served in Captain Stone and Boughton's, Colonel Story's Regiment from May through November, 1814, six months in militia and Light Horse duty. In the winter of 1813, he was called out and went to Lewiston for one month. He was also called to the mouth of the Genesee River (Charlotte) where he guarded the coast for two weeks when the British fleet appeared offshore in 1813. For this service, he was granted an 80-acre bounty.

Isaac Castle was among those who signed a petition to establish Parma Lodge #340, F. & A. M. in 1821, and served as librarian at Parma Center Presbyterian Church. In 1848, Isaac, Jr., was elected to the New York State Assembly. A second assemblyman in the family was the Hon. Abner I. Wood, husband of Althea Castle, who was Parma Supervisor, 1858-60 and again in 1865, and assemblyman 1866-68. Born February 4, 1813 at Clifton Park, Saratoga, he became a shoemaker in 1835 at Brockport, purchased a Clarkson farm in 1836, married Miss Castle in 1838, resumed business as a shoe dealer in Brockport in 1840, finally moved to Parma in 1844 to live with the Squire, his uncle by marriage. The popular Whig Republican also had living in his household his aged mother, Emma (Anna) Wood, born in 1780 in Dutchess County, as well as the Judge, born August 16, 1782 and his wife, Ruby, born in 1792. Sam and Ruby had married in 1809, came west together on a 19-day journey in October, 1810, and lived the rest of their lives on the corner farm. Samuel became an overseer of the poor, assessor in 1814 and 1817-1820, school inspector, 1815-16, 1822, 1824, town clerk for six years, supervisor for three years, justice of the peace 16 years, side judge of Monroe County Court, 1829. He died March 16, 1874 in his 65th year of residence on the historic farm.

Abraham, Jr. fathered Emeline (married Harry Fulton); Mary "Polly" (married Taber); Nelson (married Emeline); Clark, Lorenzo (married Amy) and William C. (married Jeanette). Isaac married Laura Williams and produced Darwin S. (married Emily); John W., Orsamus A., Andrew J., Isaac M. (m Jenet); Frances A. (m Fanny Critchell) Laura L., Esther J., Rebecca and Louisa. Frances A. operated a grocery at Parma Corners. William and Jeanette became early village residents at Hilton, where they bought a 50-rod lot by the creek on South Avenue for \$50 on May 26, 1834, lot 1, range 5. It was adjacent to the blacksmith establishment of George W. Putnam, and ran eight rods west along his line, then south to Salmon Creek (Ryan property). Nelson and Emeline's Amy Reed Castle married Charles N. Holman, Dr. Samuel Holman's son, who established a Hilton bakery, while her sister, Adaline A., married Hanford Bass, Hilton businessman, operator of a lumber and coal yard. Also serving in a professional capacity to the community was another Castle-Atchinson descendant, Dr. Clarence E. Castle, a Spencerport dentist.

The 1820 census lists Amos, who was pathmaster in 1821, then disappears from local records except for deeds. Most of the Castles remained on the virgin earth they pioneered. Nelson lived on the same farm where his father, Abraham, Jr. had settled, an esteemed member of the community until, as the *Union Advertiser* reported on September 11, 1882, "... he died Saturday evening ... at the age of 82 he passed away like a person lying down to pleasant dreams."

Most of the Castles and their inlaws still dream their pleasant dreams in the little vinca carpeted cemetery on Peck Road.



## Bezabel Atchinson: Those Amazing Atchinsons

"Industry, frugality, temperance . . ."

Atchinson is a name of Scotch derivation. In King Philip's fierce Indian attack on Hatfield, Massachusetts September 19, 1677, 12 men were slain and 17 taken captives. Among the 12 slain in the massacre was John Atchinson, whose wife, Deliverance, was left with Elizabeth, 5, Mary, 3, John, 1. Benoni was born two months later, and died February 28, 1704, probably in the Deerfield attack. As he left no sons to carry on his name, all Atchinsons descend from John of Longmeadow, Massachusetts, who married Dorcas Burt at Springfield and sired eight children, including John, 2, a soldier in the French and Indian War, who married widow Anna Wood Hunt, born at Concord in 1710. Their four children included Bezabel, born December 3, 1737 at Enfield, Tolland County, soldier of the Revolution according to the Monroe County Bureau of Graves Registry, and father of the Parma pioneers.

In 1755, Bezabel married Elinor Farrington. Their Bezeleel, born in December, 1762, married Mary Fuller of Stafford on November 11, 1785, who came to Parma from Tolland, Ct. with his family and brothers in 1796. Elinor died on May 12, 1799 and after a few years Bezabel joined his descendants in Parma. He passed away September 25, 1813 and is buried in the old Atchinson Cemetery on Hill Road. Probably he served with the Connecticut militia, since no military records can be found. Only Massachusetts had more Revolutionary troops than Connecticut, a state of 198,000 which furnished 40,000 soldiers and much of the meat for the Continental Army.

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Parma, the Apple Capital, land of the huge, 20-ounce apple developed by the Collamer family, may also proudly lay claim to the fact that within its borders, then known as "Braddock's Bay Township," there was established in 1796 the first lone wilderness settlement in Monroe County. ("Settlement: a colony of settlers, a cluster of houses or huts.") A few scattered huts hugged the river bank . . . the rude buildings by Indian Allen's old gristmill, occupied by Colonel Josiah Fish and his family; the rude, thatched hut of William Hencher at Charlotte near today's site of the old 1822 stone lighthouse; Peter Sheffer's farm occupied the flats near Scottsville, Joseph Morgan had a homestead in Chili dating to 1792, John Lusk had settled at Irondequoit Bay in Brighton in 1790, the same year that Major Isaac Scott settled temporarily in Henrietta. Jacob Walker, a Tory, had settled at Irondequoit Bay, as had a mulatto named Asa Dunbar from Massachusetts, 1795. Zebulon Norton had come to Mendon in 1791. But in all the wild, lonesome country stretching west from the river, no white man had settled permanently in "the North Woods" near Braddock Bay until that spring of 1796, when Bezaleel Atchinson, Jr., 33; Dr. Sylvester Atchinson, 28; Stephen Atchinson, 26 and John Atchinson, 24, came with Bezaleel's courageous wife, Mary and their four small children, Eleanor, Austin, Roswell and Mary. Crossing the Genesee on the ice, they laboriously cut a roadway 16 miles northwest from the falls to what is now the vicinity of Burritt Road and Hill Road. This first man-made road in western Monroe County, clearly shown on Charles Williamson's 1798 map, was succeeded on June 6, 1799, by the first surveyed road in the county, a narrow road leading from Bezaleel Atchinson's cabin on Hill Road to Steven Peabody's distillery in Chili, near Sheffer's.

It was to the Atchinson's country settlement that the old grist mill from King's Landing was finally removed. References to Atchinson's mill first appear in town records in 1807. Once the rude mill had busily ground grain on the tiny stream that trickled into the Genesee at the landing (in today's Maplewood Park) near the spot where Nathaniel Jones erected a saw mill on the same stream about 1802/3. Thomas King cut the stones and erected the grist mill soon afterwards. Relocated two miles west of Parma Center on Parma Center Road, it was reputedly the scene of an unsolved murder. A saw mill was attached a few years later and other mills were built by the Atchinsons at various locations, all long since forgotten. A second mill on Salmon Creek below Unionville (Hilton) was never operated as it was built too far above the water to function properly. Eventually it was taken down and rebuilt near the settlement, according to the 1877 county history.



Still today on Parma Center Road West a pleasant, sparkling little waterfall spills merrily over the sturdy ledgerrock at the old mill site, mute testimony to the wilderness water power that once turned the millwheels of Atchinson's Mills, Bush's, Gager's, Ross's, Chase & Tierney's, later the red brick mills operated by the Fowlers and the Pecks. The old brick mills burned about 1870 and a wooden grist and saw mill took their place, operated by J. E. Chase and C. McKinney.

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Barzeliel Atchinson was listed as a member of Captain Staughton's Company, Lieutenant Moses Thrall in the French and Indian War. At the alarm at Ft. William Henry in August, 1757, Barzeliel was among the 69 soldiers "ordered by ye captain to continue with the company, but deserted, returned and never again joined said company." Sgt. John Atchinson served under General Phineas Lyman's 1st Company, April through October, 1756, and was also on the list of companies at Ft. William Henry October 13, 1756. John was probably Bezaleel's (Bezabel's) father.

Bezabel had nine children: Bezaleel, Jr., Sylvester, a second Sylvester, and Stephen, born in Somers, Ct. and John, Eleanor, Asa, Jacob and Anna born in Tolland. John became a colonel of the Ontario county militia. Bezaleel's Roswell was a sergeant in the War of 1812, receiving 120 acres of bounty land. He was Parma supervisor from 1826-28. Bezaleel had 11 children: Samuel, 9 and Betsy, 3, who died at Naples the year previous to their arrival here; a subsequent Betsy born January 22, 1799 . . . the second birth in the township, Roswell, Austin, Eleanor, Fuller, Melinda, Caroline, another Eleanor, Mary, Almyra and Samuel M. The death of Bezaleel's sister, Eleanor, wife of Elihu Johnson in 1803, was the first death in the township. By the time of mother Polly's death in California where she went with an adventuresome one-armed grandson, Bezaleel Mutt Atchinson, most of the Atchinsons had scattered throughout the far west, leaving behind the community they inspired, Parma Center, once known as Atchinson's Corners, also nicknamed "The Hub."

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In the little hillside cemetery on Hill Road, a cemetery almost unnoticed and overgrown with vinca and wildflowers, many of the Atchinsons rest forever under the tall old whispering pines, their graves marked only with scaling fieldstone markers, some graves entirely unmarked, others with inscriptions long erased by winds and rains. Bezaleel's tombstone lies broken in pieces.

The deserted pioneer burying ground bears sad testimony to the rigors of pioneer life and the hard tolls exacted of frontier families, where wives and mothers, infants and sons often succumbed to the dreaded "Braddock's Bay Fever," now thought to be a form of malaria. There lie the last reminders of the pioneer settlers: Bezaleel, Sr., his son; Bezaleel, Jr.; Horace, Clorinda Hicks, John's wife; Esther Hicks, Jacob's wife; Anna Beach, Stephen's wife and their three children, Stephen, Emma and Danford. There lie their relatives and neighbors.

One Atchinson did not inherit an early grave. Austin Atchinson was 103 when he died in Spencerport in 1893, the oldest resident of Monroe County and the oldest Mason in the state of New York. Here was a dauntless man who, with timeless faith and intrepid spirit jauntily built and painted a brand new fence in his backyard to celebrate his 102nd birthday!

Parma's Austin Atchinson, his life spanning the century from Washington to Harrison, was the subject of much interest in the county, a celebrity of sorts, and therefore honored on his 100th birthday with a special service at Ogden Methodist Church. Austin Atchinson, hardy pioneer stock, child of the wilderness, benefactor of Syracuse University, War of 1812 veteran, early town officer and beloved father, sleeps today in Fairfield Cemetery, Spencerport. Born November 6, 1790, he was five years old when the family came west, traveling on foot as pioneers often did, trudging all the long, weary miles from Connecticut to Naples. There, the winter of 1795, the family lived with his uncle, Sylvester, a physician who had surveyed the town of Naples for Phelps and Gorham in 1794. The doctor purchased five lots in Ontario county for 20 pounds Connecticut money (\$50) on March 29, 1793. He was then a resident of East Windsor, Hartford County, Ct.

Finding the soil poor and stoney, discouraged by the death of two children, their oldest and youngest, worried by the scarcity of food, they agreed to the inducements of Charles Williamson, who urged them to settle the unknown territory of Braddock's Bay. Next to Sodus Bay, Williamson considered Braddock's the most desirable site along the lakeshore.

Here the pioneer brothers began their pioneer business: Sylvester a physician, Jacob a blacksmith, Bezaleel a miller. Roswell, Bezaleel's son, donated land for the Parma Center Presbyterian Church sanctuary in 1829, becoming a charter member. Austin, his brother, contributed funds to Syracuse University, a Methodist College, and to the Methodist Episcopal Church at Parma Center, where he was a class leader.

The first school, taught in a log hut on Bezaleel's farm before 1804, was a product of the settlement, as was its successor, Parma Dist. #1. Also organized at the settlement was the First Baptist Church, founded in 1809 in the schoolhouse; the Methodist Episcopal Church of Parma Center, founded in 1811; the Parma Center Presbyterian Church, organized in 1829 at the schoolhouse.

A county marker was placed near the site of the initial settlement in 1959, but it had disappeared by 1965, torn down by vandals. Re-erected in 1975, it was broken off again a few days later. Something there is that wants the past to be forgotten, unknown, unhallowed. "But they are not lost who are remembered . . . nor dead whose work transcends their time."

**ATCHINSON COUNTRY—**  
Air view of Parma Center shows lands purchased by the Atchinson family. Family members at one time owned a large portion of the township.





### **Sgt. William Henry Answers the Lexington Alarm . . .**

Aaron and William Henry, non-commissioned officers in Captain Abraham Sedgwick's company of Connecticut minutemen marched from Hartford, Connecticut, as soon as the news of the Lexington encounter reached their community. More than 3,600 men from 50 towns of the Nutmeg state rushed to the hills overlooking Boston that crucial week of April, 1775.

William Henry, a sergeant with Sedgwick's state militia, marched to New York City January 23, 1776, under General Lee. They were engaged in throwing up fortifications. A company pay roll credits Henry with 40 days' service in this campaign, for which he received three pounds and four shillings. He enlisted on January 19 and served until February 28, while a concerned Hartford community collected money and goods for the relief of New Yorkers.

Land purchases in Parma, October 2, 1815 include the acreage on the west side of Hilton Hill where Hilton Firemen's Field is now located, and the farm at the northeast corner of Burritt Road and Route 259 which later became the Burritt Homestead Farm, and still later, a nursing home. The family probably arrived about 1813. In the 1820 census, there was one son 16-18, three 18-26 and two daughters under ten years of age. The birthplaces of the children which were reported to the census taker place the family in Oneida County in 1797 when Jonathan was born, in Madison in 1799 when James was born, still there in 1805 when Phebe was born and in 1811 when Esther was born, but in Chenango county when Sally was born in 1813. By then, William was 57, and apparently he moved here soon afterwards, a hardy pioneer.

When Samuel A. Smith died in September, 1850, he left his widow, Rachel and brothers and sisters William Henry of Hamilton, Madison County; Jonathan, James and John of Parma, Esther Tompkins, wife of John Tompkins of Parma; Phebe Limbocker, wife of George Limbocker of Parma; Betsey Ballard of Springwater, Michigan. William, Jonathan, John and James helped organize the Free Will Baptist Church September 29, 1831.

To this Revolutionary veteran, Henry Street, Gorton Avenue and the Henry Street School indirectly owe their names. Elizabeth Henry, daughter of James and Annis Henry and granddaughter of the patriot, married John Gorton, known as "Honest John," and lived in the old Dunham house which once stood on the present site of the ARCO station, corner of West Avenue and Lake Avenue. It was at "Dunham's Corners" (corner of Henry Street and West Avenue) that the first high school was built. It stood on what is now lawn south of the Henry Street building. Its predecessor, a two-room grade school, was moved to East Avenue by the railroad tracks and today houses Ciciotti's music store. Once it was the fire hall, village hall, jail, meeting hall, appliance and bottled gas store, and there St. Paul's Lutheran Church held its first services in 1898.

John and Elizabeth Henry Gorton's adopted daughter, Augusta Sophia, married David W. Dunham, and died in Rochester, having spent her summers in the old Gorton house. She gave the land for Gorton and Henry streets, naming them after her adopted parents. The Henry-Gorton-Dunham house was split into two portions and moved to 21 Gorton Avenue and 42 Henry Street for private residences at those addresses, when Hilton Service Company purchased the corner property for a gas station site in 1939. Elizabeth died on March 8, 1908.

William Henry, the patriot, born in 1756, died April 19, 1846 aged 90, and rests in the old Smith-Curtis cemetery, corner of Dunbar Road and North Avenue. His wife, Phebe Cutter born in 1766, died September 24, 1848, aged 82. Rachel Smith died September 11, 1850, aged 60. James died October 24, 1869, aged 70; Phebe died March 31, 1887 and Sally, who never married, died October 4, 1863, aged 50. Esther, wife of John Tompkins, passed away October 21, 1895, aged 84. In 1855, the census taker found Sally, born in Chenango, living next door to the Gideon Archer homestead atop Hilton Hill with Caroline Guthary, a widow newly arrived from Chenango and Jonathan Underwood, 69, Vermont pioneer of the village, who stated he had arrived in 1806. The three lived in a \$300 frame house, next to Archer's \$900 residence on the site of Underwood's initial log cabin. Archer's Greek Revival farmhouse, now marked with a county historical marker, later became a stop on the Underground Railroad.

#### **OPPOSITE:**

Leaning on his halberd, the distinctive weapon of a sergeant, William Henry guards the ramparts at Brooklyn which he had helped to construct. He is wearing the checkered shirt of a Hartford militia man. The halberd is similar to those manufactured in the colonies for the French and Indian war.





Birthplace of Israel Putnam,  
Danvers, Massachusetts

## Major General Israel Putnam: Father of West Point

Sturdy old Israel Putnam, Washington's esteemed, courageous, intrepid Major General and founder of West Point, first saw the light of day January 7, 1718 at Salem, Massachusetts. Robust and rugged, the battle-trying Herculean soldier supervised the fortifications at Bunker Hill (actually Breed's Hill) overlooking Boston, as well as early fortifications at Philadelphia and West Point. Utilizing the engineering acumen of his cousin, Rufus Putnam, he created Fort Putnam, now under restoration.

Aggressive, intrepid and canny, honest and gallant, he had been tortured and nearly burned to death by savages in the French and Indian Wars, where he served as a captain of the Connecticut provincials until his appointment as major in 1757. Hair breath escapes were his forte, ingenuity and daring his legendary "modus operandi," often he was responsible for saving lives of officers and men.

Major Putnam first visited the Monroe County area during the Seven Years War between England and France, sailing along our Lake Ontario shores with General John Prideaux's British provincials, enroute to attack Fort Niagara. The expedition camped at Irondequoit Bay and Braddock Bay enroute, and Prideaux's name was given to the bay. Unfortunately, barbaric mispronunciations ultimately transformed "Prideaux" into "Braddox." Following the 1759 victory in which General Prideaux was killed by an accidental grenade explosion before his men captured the French fort, Major Putnam came again with Colonel John Bradstreet's men on their 1764 expedition to Irondequoit Bay.

In 1739 at the age of 21, he had married and shortly thereafter removed to Pomfret, Connecticut, later settling in Brooklyn, an adjacent community. He was a Lieut. Colonel in the War with Spain and was instrumental in the capture of Havana, Cuba. He had returned to peacetime pursuits and was plowing in his quiet fields at Brooklyn when an express rider brought word of the Lexington and Concord conflict. Immediately he left his plow in the furrow, galloping off on an all-night ride to Boston, reaching the picket lines by sunrise. His presence and direction inspired confidence in the disordered troops of militiamen, whose first official commissary purchase had been one hogshed of New England rum. Putnam's thundering voice could be heard above the roar of battle. His esteem among the troops and patriots was always unbounded. To him has been credited, correctly or incorrectly, the June 17, 1775 Bunker Hill admonition: "Men, you are all marksmen—don't one of you fire until you see the white of their eyes." When Washington officially took command of the army in July, he informed Putnam that Congress had appointed him the Colonies' first Major General.

At Boston, Philadelphia, Princeton and at the posts along the Hudson River, he held responsible positions. During the winter of 1778 he chose West Point as the site for a fortification and continued his work on the fortifications in the Highlands until December, 1779, when a paralytic stroke paralyzed his right side, ending his distinguished career. When death came May 19, 1790, the nation lost a beloved leader of benevolent and sacred memory, whose name will always be a talisman because, as his epitaph states: "... he dared to lead where any dared to follow."

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Parma's Reuben Putnam was a distant cousin of the famous general, as were the Parma Odells. Odells of America descend from William Odell who came to Concord, Massachusetts in the mid-1630s. Their lineage has been traced to 795 A.D., and includes royal descent from King Alfred and William the Conqueror. Parma's Rodney P. Odell came from Merriman, Hillsboro county, New Hampshire. Rodney P. Odell, Jr., served as Parma's supervisor from 1876-78. He was town clerk from 1862-76, and conducted an underground railroad station, with the help of relatives in Parma and Greece.



## Jeremiah Perry: Wounded Prisoner and Privateer

"Jeremiah Perry, Soldier of the Revolution," reads the simple inscription on a plain, modern tombstone in Parma Corners Cemetery. The gravestone was obviously placed there many years after the patriot soldier's death on August 6, 1843, at the age of 89 years.

Despite his modest epitaph, the young man born in Tiverton, Rhode Island, June 20, 1754, described an exciting and flamboyant military career in his pension application to officials in Washington, D.C. on September 29, 1832. On that day, his Peck Road neighbor, Judge Samuel Castle a county court judge, came to Jeremiah's home to prepare the 77-year-old gentleman's pension papers. Mr. Perry, seriously ill, declared under oath that in the month of September, 1774, he was living in the town of Tiverton, Bristol County, Rhode Island, where he volunteered as a private to serve in the continental army "as long as we should be wanted." He was attached to a company commanded by Isaac Manchester, Lt. Manchester, Ensign Jonathan Duvall, Major Cook and the famous British Colonel Church, who was later convicted as a traitor. They were immediately ordered to march about 16 miles to Corrington's Cove about three miles north of Newport, where they were to prevent the British from landing and plundering property and also to prevent the Tories from communicating with the British troops in a brig anchored at Newport under Wallace's command. About six weeks later, the British did attempt to land at Corrington's Cove to commandeer some livestock grazing near the shore, and an engagement took place. Five or six of the British were killed. A second attempt to land at a later date also failed and as winter approached, Perry was discharged, after 92 days' service, winter engagements being rare.

In July, 1775, he again enlisted for several months as a militia private and was attached to Captain David Gifford's Company, under Ensign S. Wyatt, Lt. Oliver Durfee, Colonel John Cook's regiment. They marched to Newport, where the guard duty was uneventful until several days before his term was to have expired, when about 9,000 British army troops entered the harbor of Newport by night under Lord Percy and General Prescott. When they effected a landing in the morning, the American force of 2,000 to 3,000 was too feeble to resist. Leaving behind about 25-30 prisoners, they retreated to Bristol's and Howland's Ferry with what cannon and stock they could transport. (Bristol's Ferry is about 15 miles from Newport.)

They were passing the livestock and cannon by ferry to the mainland from Bristol's to Howland's ferry when Jeremiah's contingent was surprised and taken prisoner by British horsemen, having been led into an ambush by a Tory. Seeing the enemy approaching, Perry started to run for a marsh, but heard orders to fire, whereupon he stopped and turned about. The guns of the enemy were cocked and pointed at him, but Lord Percy ordered the soldiers not to fire, but to save the American's life, so that he might pilot the enemy to Bristol Ferry. The Tory then approached and offered his services as a pilot, which were accepted, so Perry was taken under guard to Portsmouth where he and eight others were put under the guard of 12 men overnight.

Four of the guard, having become intoxicated from stolen cider, attempted to rob Jeremiah of his money and his neckerchief. He resisted them, and in defending himself, was wounded with their knives in his hands and throat. He showed the scars to Judge Castle as he testified to his cruel mistreatment, 57 years later at his simple Parma farmhouse. The jailors were reported and flogged for their conduct, he said.

When the prisoners were taken to be incarcerated in Newport jail, the British had to reinforce the guard to prevent the Hessians at Newport from murdering the prisoners. For five days and four nights, there was nothing to eat. Only through the intercession of the Quakers with Lord Percy were they provided at all with food. Perry continued in prison until late March, when there was a prisoner exchange for Highlanders brought in from Boston through a cartel. Perry and four others were exchanged after his father hired four Highlanders to serve in the British army. The father paid each of them \$25 to redeem his son's life. The Committee of Safety of Boston and Providence arranged for the exchange of the others. Having served



over nine months more, he was then returned to his residence at Tiverton and from there went to Connecticut to live, where he remained until June, 1777, when he returned to Tiverton and again enlisted for one year as a minute man in the company of Captain William Durfee, Lt. Humphrey Shearman, Ensign Thomas Durfee, Col. John Cook's regiment under Major Manchester.

Once again, the regiment was assigned to guard the houses and buildings along the seashore in Tiverton. When not at guard duty, Perry was ordered to draw timber from Howland's Ferry to build barracks in Tiverton. After nine months, he was sent to guard Howland's ferry, for now spring had arrived and the timbering season had ended. Thus, he came to join General John Sullivan's expedition against the enemy at Butts Hill, about three miles from Tiverton. They pursued them to Greenend Brook, 15 miles away, where they fought for half an hour.

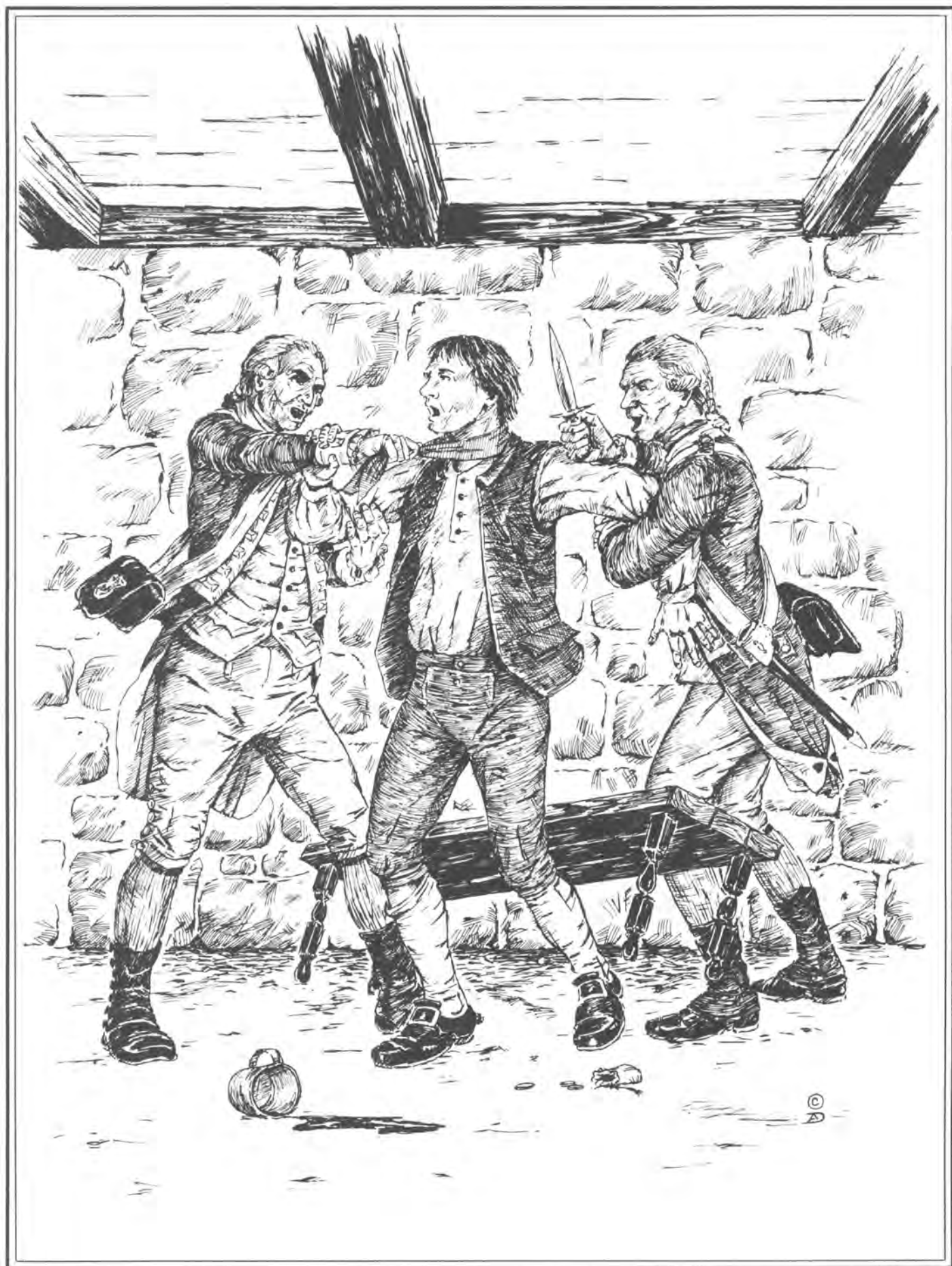
In the month of June, 1778, Colonel Cook discharged them. The company marched to John Howland's house and gave in their guns and equipment for others to use. But by July, Jeremy had enlisted on board a privateering ship commanded by William Dennison, first mate Smith, second mate Robert Dennison, and was once more in the continental service, with the fledgling unofficial navy. He and 17 others enlisted and put out to sea, only to be driven back upon Fisher Island between Martha's Vineyard and the mainland of Cape Cod. Putting out again, they were gone about four weeks when they sighted what they thought to be sugar vessels and bore down upon them. When they proved to be the British fleet, strongly manned, the brig hurriedly changed course. The British ship "Gallilee" gave chase and captured the brig after a six-hour engagement. The prisoners were put on the cable tier of the commodore's ship and in the afternoon were called on deck to ascertain which of them would engage in British service. The British claimed those who were from Martha's Vineyard as their men, on the grounds that the Island belonged to them, and these prisoners they would not exchange. The other prisoners were then divided and put on board different ships. Jeremiah was put on board the ship "Virginia" formerly of the American line, and taken to Deer Island where he was confined on a prison ship for about five weeks.

About 120 prisoners were then taken to Boston and exchanged in December, 1778, over five months after Jeremiah went to sea. There were other services rendered, he said, but not detailed in his application. Following the war, he moved to Cambridge, Washington County, to Hoosack, Rensselaer County, to Wayne County, then Parma, where he purchased 20 acres in the southeast part of lot 30, on the Ogden-Parma Town Line, June 9, 1827 for \$300. He sold this to Daniel Finch and William McKnight November 15, 1828. Returning to Wayne County, he lived in Palmyra for a while before returning again to Parma, this time to the Peck Road area. The estate of his son, Parrish Perry, had been administered at Batavia June 13, 1816.

Mr. Perry collected a \$70 monthly pension until he died August 6, 1843 at the age of 89 years. Anna Stafford Perry (also listed as Amia, Amy, Mary and Polly,) his widow, requested a similar pension. Jeremiah Perrey was the spelling used when the veteran signed his deposition. Their wedding was recorded in Tiverton on March 26, 1782. He was the son of Pearce and Ruth Perry and she was the daughter of Till and Jane Stafford, according to the justice of the peace who united them to live together until death parted them 61 years later. She moved back to Palmyra where their son, Israel, witnessed her pension application November 18, 1843, which was rejected.

**OPPOSITE:**

Attacked by drunken guards who coveted his beautiful neckerchief and his money, Jeremiah Perry received knife wounds in neck and hands, while a prisoner of war of the British.





### **Thomas King: Trenton Teamster**

Thomas King was 100 years old when he ended his earthly journey and came to rest in the old Adams Basin cemetery on Canal Road. His death occurred September 23, 1864, a full century after his birth in Haverstraw, Rockland County, N.Y.

As a participant in the Battle of Trenton on Christmas Eve, 1776, the 14-year-old patriot shared General Washington's finest hour. Bravely crossing the ice-clogged Delaware for a surprise offensive, Washington's army turned the discouraging defeats of the past years into a stunning, morale building victory, clobbering General Rall's stunned soldiers, many befuddled by Christmas celebrations well lubricated by alcoholic spirits.

Brockport's now defunct Monroe Chapter, D.A.R., listed him as one of the Green Mountain Boys, but documentation for this service cannot be located. Relatives believed that he rendered service as a teamster, helping to transport men and supplies across the Hudson. The National Archives reports that a Thomas King served with Captain Elihu Marshall's Company in Colonel M. Willett's Albany County Regiment in 1781.

In 1830 he was still living at Haverstraw, where he had married Lettie Rall. The 1855 census for Parma found him residing in a humble \$500 frame house with his son, Mangle King, 53, born in Rockland County, N.Y. The father, then 88 years old, stated that he moved to this area in 1838. Elizabeth King, 57, also was in the household of Mangle, his wife, Mary; Lydia, 16, their daughter; Catherina A, 19, another daughter, and Fred, 3 a grandson. Mangle's family had come a year previously, in 1837.

Many of Lettie Rall King's relatives lived adjacently, and she is probably buried in an unmarked grave in the little Rall family cemetery on the Avery Gretton farm, Ogden-Parma Town Line Road at Hinkleyville. Gravestones are there for Mangle Rall (probably Lettie's brother), born in Haverstraw, who died October 1, 1851; Jane Knapp Rall, his wife, born in Haverstraw in 1788, died November 1, 1853, and their daughter, Caroline.

Adams Basin, once known as Kings and Adams Basin, originally was established as the community of Bates, named in honor of David S. Bates, a resident canal engineer. He earned \$4 a day for his services, while the other canal construction workers were paid \$1 per day. John Bates was his assistant engineer on the section from Greece to Brockport, and William Cheeney was general superintendent on the Pittsford to Brockport section of the original Erie Canal, 40' wide and 4' deep. At "Bates," Moses King operated a tavern and warehouses on the new basin at the intersection of the canal and Washington Street, directly across the canal from the present Canalside Inn Antiques building. Moses King's gristmill was moved from King's Landing to the Atchinson settlement about 1809 and rebuilt near Salmon Creek falls. Bezaleel Atchinson, Jr., added a sawmill. Subsequently, the mills passed to the Bushes, Gagers, Mahlon Ross, Chase and Tierney, to the Fowler brothers, then the Pecks.

### **Ebenezer Utter Fights the "Cowboys"!**

While Ebenezer Utter, bewildered ferryman, watched in helpless dismay, his potential ferry fee of \$4.38 on-the-hoof placidly swam across the Genesee River at Charlotte. The date was March 4, 1810.

Daniel Budd, bringing his 18 head of cattle from Canandaigua to a new farmstead on Ridge Road, Greece, had herded the cattle on board Utter's ferry and was about to pay the fee, when the cattle happily meandered over to the end of the vessel, plunged into the river and swam across to the west shore! Thus, the unfortunate and very dismayed Mr. Utter lost his princely tab of 18 shillings.

Early references to the ferry that plied between the shores of Greece and Irondequoit in the vicinity of Charlotte cemetery mentioned Utter's ferry. According to Prof. W. H. McIntosh's 1877 history of Monroe County, it was operated by Ebenezer, Jr., son of the Revolutionary war veteran who died in Parma in 1837. The ferry was in existence as early as 1810, or earlier.

Dr. Samuel B. Bradley's death record states that Ebenezer died February 10, 1837, but his military pension papers at Washington, D.C. list the death date as the 9th. Perhaps he had been injured, for on January 5th of that year, Dr. Bradley set a Mr. Utter's leg, removing the apparatus from the broken limb on the 24th day, January 30th. Whether it was Mr. Utter, Sr., or Ebenezer, Jr., is unclear.

Ebenezer Sr.'s pension papers state that he was born in 1759 in the small village of Fredericksburg (now Franklin) in Dutchess County, N.Y. He was drafted in August, 1776, as a private in Colonel John Field's New York Regiment. He was in Captain Mott's company with Lieutenant William Calkins when the unit marched to Kings Bridge and soon afterwards crossed the Hudson from Fort Washington to Stoney Point. Marching upriver to a point opposite Peekskill, they recrossed the river again and soon after recrossed to Newburgh, where he remained with the troops until some time in January, 1777, when his five months' term of service expired. By then, Captain Mott had been promoted major and Lieutenant Calkins had become captain of the company.

In May, 1777, he enlisted under Lt. Sears in a company under Captain David Hecock. Hecock's 50 men marched to the lower end of Dutchess County and along the frontiers to the highlands, serving as scouts to protect the frontiers from the "cowboys" (lawless, marauding bands of Tories and renegade plunderers who drove off stock and sometimes injured or murdered colonial families, or burned or demolished buildings). He saw 18 days' duty under Hecock and Col. Fields, scouring the woods in an attempt to apprehend dangerous persons.

In October, he again entered service as a volunteer under Lieutenant Barnham's Dutchess County unit which marched to Wallkill and from there to a picket fort at Pinpac, where the troops were stationed along with another company from Fishkill to protect the inhabitants from Indians. They were dismissed in January, 1778. Utter said that he was frequently pressed into service with his town militia during preceding and subsequent summers, but could not remember the officers' names.

After the war, he moved to Kinderhook, where he lived about two years, then moved to Granville, high in the mountains of Washington County near Lake George. There he lived for eleven years before removing to Geneseo in Livingston County. Married prior to 1794, he is mentioned in early Northampton records for performing highway work at Geneseo in 1798 and 1800. Also listed were Samuel, Samuel, Jr., James Jr. and Eli. The 1800 census places Ebenezer, Samuel and Samuel, Jr. in Geneseo, while the 1810 Parma census lists Samuel, Samuel, Jr.; Ebenezer, Sr. and Ebenezer, Jr. Ebenezer, Sr. then had two males under 10 years old, one between the ages of 16 and 26, a female under 10 and another female 16-26 in his household. He appears in Gates (now Greece township) in the 1820 census and back in Parma in the 1830 census. By 1830, Ebenezer, Jr., was living next door. He had also been in Parma at the 1820 census listing, apparently on Peck Road near Manitou Road. When Ebenezer, Sr. applied for his \$25.32 annual pension in 1832, he named Samuel Castle and Hiram Handy as his neighbors. Mrs. Utter was Ruth Hicks, doubtless of that early pioneer family of Samuel Hicks which settled on Peck Road near Dean Road. An obituary reporting the death of Ruth Hicks Utter on Christmas Day, 1842, gives her age as 91 and states that she had resided 41 years in the county, placing their arrival date as 1801. Ebenezer listed his arrival date in Parma as 1821 on his pension application, which conflicts somewhat with the fact that they were listed in Greece, then part of Gates, in the 1820 census. Perhaps they lived in Greece for a while before moving to Parma in 1821. Charlotte Utter Hicks, born in 1785 in Connecticut, also told an 1855 census taker that 1801 was her date of settlement.

Ebenezer, Sr. did not name any of his children in his pension application except Ebenezer, Jr., (born in Columbia County, 1788) who in 1844 was residing in Leroy, Lake County, Ohio. Utters of Hamlin, Clarkson, Parma and Greece descended from this veteran. One of them was James and his wife, Ellen, with whom Ebenezer, Jr., now a day laborer, was living in a \$25 log house on Manitou Road when the 1865 census was taken. Ebenezer Utter, Sr.'s place of burial is unknown.

Utter (auter) is the Swedish term for otter. The Utters of America descend from Nicholas Utter, a soldier believed to have come with the Swedes to Delaware.

**OPPOSITE:**

A MEMBER OF CONGRESS, carrying important papers in his portfolio, speaks of the need for haste to Dragoon Matthias Lane, as Howe's forces advance to seize the rebel capitol at Philadelphia.

**Matthias Lane Guards the Congress . . .**

Matthias Lane died in the town of Farmersville in Cattaraugus County in 1850, aged 91, gravesite presently uncertain. In 1816, he was an overseer of highways in Parma. Parma Greece United Church of Christ and the lovely-Chase-Flack cobblestone house at 1191 Manitou Road today occupy the farmsite Mr. Lane pioneered. (174.82 acres in lot 5, range 1, according to the Wadsworth family map.)

Prof. W. H. McIntosh's 1877 history of Monroe County stated that: "Mr. Lane purchased property in 1808 (had not made payments) but had cleared land and erected a log house. His large family of sons trapped and hunted." Matthias Lane had one son 16-18 years of age, two 18-26 and a daughter 16-26 in the 1820 census. Three were engaged in agricultural pursuits. The family was not here when the 1810 census was taken, and moved to Farmersville, N.Y. by 1827, or earlier. By 1850, only Theodore, b 1827, was in Parma. He was a member of the Baptist church at Hilton (North Parma) until 1890. In 1850, he had just married his wife, Eliza, who died May 31, 1908. Other records mention Timothy Lane as the first deacon of the Baptist Church organized May 27, 1809. Joseph W. Lane was a member of the Parma Lodge of Masons, the first local masonic lodge, organized in December, 1821. Timothy's sons were: Lloyd, who married Aurilla Hicks; Jacob, who married Rhoda Grinnell and Samuel. Samuel T., born Montgomery County, settled on a farm in Greece in 1819 and gave his name to "Lane's Corners," the crossroads community where Wilder Road intersects Manitou Road, east of Hilton village.

Matthias served with the first regiment, Monmouth, New Jersey, regiment, militia, in Lt. Barns Smock's company of Light Dragoons. The unit was under Colonel Asher Holmes. Pay slips beginning October 2, 1780 through February 26, 1781, and another for November 28, 1781, show military service for 25 days under Captain Jacob Covenhoven's Company of horse dragoons with Colonel Holmes and General Furman. On January 18, 1834, a pension of \$100 yearly was granted, retroactive to March 4, 1831, and sent to him at Farmersville. Timothy Lane of Farmersville testified April 27, 1833, that his uncle, Matthias, was in service most of the time for a five-year period. In the last six years, Matthias had become very infirm, he said, and was blind, and hardly left the home of his children more than once or twice in four years.

Born May 19, 1759 at Freehold, Monmouth County, New Jersey, Matthias applied for his pension March 8, 1833. He recalled that he had volunteered to guard the shores of Freehold after the British took New York City. That spring (1777) at Colt's Neck, he guarded against Tory pillagers from Staten Island and Long Island who repeatedly came across the bay and pilfered horses, cattle and sheep.

He saw summer service for five seasons. Part of the time he was under the command of Captain William Remsen, and while under his command, was ordered to Philadelphia. Marching through Allentown and Trenton, they crossed the Delaware and marched to Bristol where they met the Congress, retreating from Philadelphia, as the British offensive took possession of the rebel capitol. His company was pressed to guard Congress on its retreat, and they marched back to Trenton and thence to Easton and Moravia, then to Reading, Pennsylvania. There, Congress dismissed them from guard duty and they marched back to Monmouth to guard the shores.

The following May, the militia were called out as the enemy approached Monmouth, and he hastened to Monmouth Court House, but found his company had left without him. On that exceedingly hot day, he joined Colonel Daniel Morgan's famous riflemen, drawn up in a battle line near Richmond's Mills. They were not engaged in the June 28, 1778 battle, however, because General Lee and his cavalymen disobeyed Washington's orders and did not fight.

After the Revolution, Matthias Lane lived in Charlestown, Montgomery County; at Sullivan, Madison County, then in Parma. Perhaps, as he doggedly hewed a small homelot in the wooded Parma wilderness, he occasionally thought about his former captains, Conover, Randolph, Remsen and Covenhoven, and his colonels, Daniel Hendrickson and Asher Holmes. Perhaps he sometimes told his sons with justifiable pride how he helped preserve the lives of the American Congress, in 1777. Though he would sleep forever in an unknown grave, the young patriot on horseback had played an important part in the saving of the nation.







1845 Cobblestone Church

### Isaac Chase: Devout Sea Captain

Governor John Winthrop's fleet of 1639 included one William Chase, born in Puritan England. While Winthrop was busily extending his iron rule over the fledgling Massachusetts Bay Colony, William Chase settled in the Boston area, becoming a member of the First Church of Roxbury, Massachusetts. He was a freeman (landowner) by 1634 and moved to Yarmouth, Massachusetts in 1638.

William's son, William, born about 1622 in England, fathered a third William born about 1645. William's Isaac married Elizabeth Marks Blethen of Salem and his family resided in Swansea, Massachusetts.

Swansea on the Taunton River, was subdivided into Swansea and Somerset on February 24, 1790. Forty-eight miles south of Boston just across Mt. Hope Bay from Rhode Island, Swansea in Bristol County was the locale where the first English blood was shed in the 1675 war against the dreaded Indian, King Philip. (King Philip, a neighbor and friend of the Leonard family, was finally put to death by William Richmond, whose descendants owned much of the neighboring township of Hamlin, N.Y.). Shawomet was the early Indian name for Swansea, where most of the family spelled their name Chace, while those migrating to Nantucket and Cape Cod terrain used the island spelling, Chase. Biblical names were characteristic of this devout family, many of whom embraced the Quaker faith.

Primarily a farming area, Swansea provided 416 men for the Revolution, 21 of them named Chase. Shipyard, shipbuilding and sailing were also a vital part of the economy and many Chases took to the sea, Parma's Captain Isaac Chase among them. Other industries included the manufacture of shoes, begun by Richard Chase in 1796, a cotton factory in which Oliver Chase had a quarter interest, and the manufacture of iron products from the bog iron loose on the bottoms of ponds, thus easily scooped up with oyster tongs. (Organic acids mixed with marshy water dissolve the iron oxide from the soil and precipitate the oxides into the form of bog ore.)

In 1725, Isaac Chase and others of Shawomet bought a share of an iron works and three acres of land on both sides of the Matapossete River. It hardly seems a coincidence that a foundry was begun adjacent to Isaac Chase's later house in Parma. The property south of the present Parma-Greece United Church of Christ, purchased by Isaac and sold to Derrick M. Martin and wife, Sarah Justine for \$100 on January 9, 1857, (50 acres) is listed in 1872 as the Garrett & Martin Foundry, manufacturers of farm implements. Martin, Garret & Co. manufactured plows, cultivators, caldron kettles and other castings and dealt in Buckeye Reapers, wheelrakes and other agricultural implements. It was listed as F. H. Lay's foundry on an 1887 map, later was owned by William Bush, became the residence of C. Rapp, then of Ward Cox who sold it to Howard Cox. Howard willed the property to the church.

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James Chase, son of Isacc and husband of Alice Coggeshall Anthony and then of Lydia Goddard Thurston, was born February 12, 1706 in Swansea. His ten children included Isaac, born June 10, 1765 in Middleton Rhode Island, where James died in 1782.

Greenfield (Milton) in Saratoga County, N.Y. was the home of the Chase family when they decided to migrate to Parma on the newly-opened Erie Canal. The canal opened in October, 1825, and the old sea captain piloted his family down the Erie Waters, perhaps in the spring of 1826. The family appears to have moved to Greenfield in 1802, for they were still in Somerset, Mass., in 1801 when Isacc, Jr. was born on Washington's Birthday. His mother, Elizabeth Wood, died September 7, 1838, aged 66 years. James married Betsey Tripp, Robey married Norton Hicks. Seth, Eliza Chase Talmadge, Diana Chase Armstrong and Miller Chase were the other progeny of Isaac, Sr. Isaac, Jr. married Lucy Sheldon, then Hannah Edgerton, then Emeransa Geldred. He died February 9, 1884, having served nine times as Parma supervisor. An ardent Republican, he was also active in the community as a teacher, farmer, founder of Parma & Greece Christian Congregational Church and the conductor of an Underground Railroad station in his home. The palatial cobblestone house at 1211 Manitou Road was built in the 1840s. Isacc

Jr. purchased 80 acres in subdivision 1 of lot 5 for \$918 on May 1, 1845. Land from his farm was provided to the Christian church society and a cobblestone structure completed for a sanctuary in 1845. It was used until 1903, when the cobble walls were torn down and the old foundation reused for the present structure. The stones for the church and for Chase's residence were gathered up on the lake shore and transported seven miles to the site, via horse and wagon.

Although no deed records were filed, the Chase family members remembered purchasing the original farm from a Mr. Lane (probably Matthias). The original family residence was probably the wooden saltbox house north of the cobblestone mansion. Eventually the family moved out of the mansion because it was getting "old fashioned," but as its historic value became realized in later years, it again became the home of descendants.

Proudly passed on to posterity is the family legend of the jubilant scene in the forest as the Chases leveled the first tree and swung their hats high over their heads, while the forest echoed with their joyful shouts. Their visions of fields of amber grain with fruit trees loaded down soon became a reality on the farm, which is still a prosperous one.

In nearby Hamlin, Chase Road bears the name of this family, named for Philip Chase, a cousin, once a Parma resident. And among the family's prominent descendants was Maurice Burritt, New York State Public Service Commissioner.

The Monroe County Veterans Graves Registry lists Isaac Chase as a member of Colonel James Holmes 4th New York Regiment, New York Continental Line. As Colonel Holmes served only from June 30, 1775 until December, when he defected and signed back to Great Britain, this would have made Isaac Chase a very youthful patriot. It is known, however, that he spent his early manhood on the seas, and galley boys as young as eight years old were included in the fledgling navy. Whether he served on land or sea and if he served with the 4th New York, we leave for future historians to ponder.

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In 1621 the ship "Fortune" arrived at Plymouth, Massachusetts from London, bringing Robert Hicks with the second Pilgrim contingent. He settled at Duxbury, Massachusetts and fathered John and Steven who went to Long Island. Isaac Hicks came from Long Island to the town of Wheatland and was listed as a property owner there in 1800. Parma's Samuel Hicks settled on lot 7, range 2 (Peck Road). The family was in Parma by 1801. At their home, the First Baptist Church was founded on May 27, 1809. Amos, Samuel and Esther were among its first members. One third of the year, the church met at the home of Ebenezer Utter, Sr. on Ridge Road West.

The land between Braddock Bay and Lake Ontario became known as Hick's Point, for here the family hunted, trapped and grew crops on the lakeshore. Probably they migrated from Lanesboro, Berkshire County, Massachusetts, where Samuel was a militia private.

**Chase-Flack House,  
1191 Manitou Road**







## Silas Leonard—Saratoga Veteran

Leonard: "Lionhearted, the disposition of a lion . . ."

Silas Leonard's tombstone in Atchinson Pioneer Cemetery on Hill Road states that he died in 1796, a date probably in error, for the family did not come to Parma until 1798, according to his son, Silas. But, a family legend relates that he died enroute and was brought on here for burial.

Born in 1747 in Lyme, Connecticut, he enlisted at Taunton, Massachusetts and served under General Horatio Gates, the hero of Saratoga. He was the son of Seth Leonard and Deborah Hall of Lyme. With Colonel Jonathan Latimer's military unit, under Captain Jonathan Calkins, he served from August 24-October 30, 1777 attached to General Poor's Brigade of Arnold's Division which fought in the Saratoga battles of September 19 and October 9th. His unit lost more men than any other regiment on the field.

From July 25-October 17, 1775, his 8th Ct. militia unit, Captain Joseph Jewett's Company, Colonel Charles Webb, was assigned to guard the coastline until September 14, when it was sent to Boston to join General Sullivan's brigade at Winter Hill. After Saratoga, he entered the state levies August 3, 1781 and was discharged January 4th from Colonel Swift's 2nd Regiment.

Silas married Mary Hackett, who died September 23, 1833 at the age of 75 years. In 1786, they moved to Stockbridge, Massachusetts.

The Leonards of Taunton, Massachusetts had established the nation's first forge. Generations of this family had been iron workers, ever since the days of the early forestsmiths of Germany in the sixth century. The Saxon Leonards, experienced workmen in metals, came to England very early and settled among the iron hills of Kent and Sussex, moving on in time to Wales. Between 1620 and 1640, they immigrated to Leyden, Holland. Probably of the family of Lennard, Lord Dacre, a descendant of King Edward III, was John Leonard, born in 1479, County Kent. Beautiful Hurstmonceaux Castle, County Sussex, came into the family in the early 17th century through Samson Lennard's marriage to Margaret Fienes, Lady Dacre. King James dubbed Samson a baron and armoured knight. John of Knole, County Kent, was the ancestor of Henry Leonard of Monmouthshire, Wales, whose son, Thomas, came from Pontipool, Monmouthshire County, Wales, in the middle of the seventeenth century with his sons, James, Henry and Philip, and his wife, Lydia White. They established the first successful ironworks in America. They called this bloomery Raynham forge, for Raynham, England, site of the Belhus Mansion of the Leonard family, Sir Thomas Barret Leonard's 10,000 acre inheritance. Eliphalet Leonard made the first bar of American steel in 1775 at Easton.

Captain James Leonard married first Mary Martin, then a second wife, Margaret, and fathered Uriah, who married Elizabeth Caswell.

Uriah's son, Seth, married Deborah Hall of Taunton, daughter of George and Lydia Deane Hall. It was Seth's Silas who served in the Revolution, married Mary Hackett and produced Thankful who married William Roberts, Lucy who married Daniel Fulton, Mary who married Timothy Madden, Martha who married Persis Henshaw, Lewis who married Laura Atchinson, Asa, and Silas who married Rachel Bush. Lucinda, daughter of Silas and Rachel, married Charles V. Efner, Parma supervisor in 1866. A North Parma (Hilton) businessman, he was responsible for bringing the Lake Ontario Shore Railroad Company's tracks through Hilton. Originally it was scheduled to bisect Parma Center. Efner's new route brought the railroad only a few feet from his general store on the site of Hilton Pharmacy.

The Leonards came to Parma from Canaan, Connecticut, near Goshen, soon after the Atchinsons arrived. Settling at the northwest corner of Burritt Road and Hill Road, they eventually acquired the salt springs on Hill Road. Daniel Fulton settled on Salmon Creek at the present site of Hilton Firemen's Field. George Madden, Timothy's descendant, became one of the early village tradesmen, opening a confectionery, ice cream and news store in 1904. He later operated the Red and White Store, Hilton's first chain grocery. Jonathan Leonard kept the "Little Brown Tavern" on the site of the Village Bake Shoppe. Dr. John Nellis later converted its bar room into the first village drug store.

## Josiah Fish: The First Supervisor

In 1794, 13-year-old Libbeus Fish accompanied his father on horseback from Townshend, Vermont, to the Genesee River wilderness, crossing the Green Mountains at Manchester, and the Hudson at Stillwater. There his father pointed out the place of Burgoyne's headquarters, the points held by each of the armies and the place of surrender, which Libbeus believed he must have witnessed.

At the mouth of Black Creek on fertile river flats in what is now the township of Chili, they planted and later harvested 4-5 acres of Indian corn, raised a log cabin and in November returned to Vermont. They brought back the entire family on sleighs in February. By November, they had relocated at what is now the site of Rochester, where they were the only residents. Fish had taken over the operation of Indian Allen's rude mill on the present site of the Community War Memorial. He built a log dwelling by it.

Born in Mendon, Massachusetts, February 11, 1755, the son of John and Deborah Sheffield Ward, he married Elizabeth Hazelton of Upton, Wooster County, Massachusetts on August 24, 1774. She was the daughter of Colonel John Hazelton and Jane Wood Hazelton, born August 9, 1755, died 1798 at King's Landing, Rochester. Until 1794, he farmed at Upton.

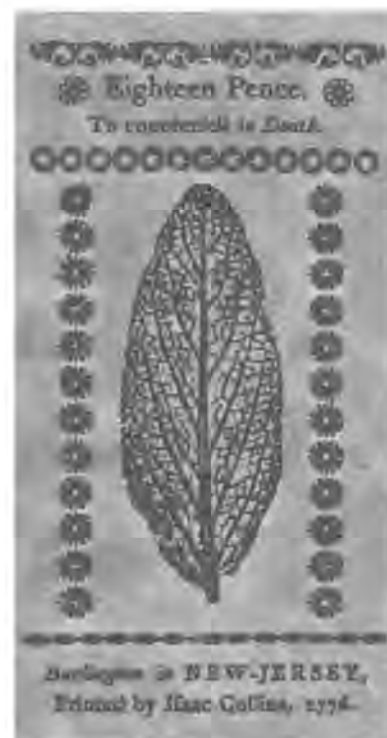
In 1066, the old Saxon Fisch family was among the followers of William the Conqueror, going with him to England from Normandy. Early New England immigrants trace their heritage to John Fyshe of Market Harborow, Great Bowden Parish, born about 1555. At least seven of nine immigrants named Fish were his descendants, settling at Lynn and then at Sandwich, Massachusetts, Newton, L.I., Rhode Island, Connecticut and then Vermont. Josiah's father John<sup>6</sup>, born 1715, Reading, Massachusetts, was the son of John<sup>5</sup> whose parents were Stephen<sup>4</sup> and Mary Lewis Micrist of Reading.

Josiah's first marriage was blessed with nine children born at Townsend, Windham County, Vermont, where Josiah was active in the formation of the state of Vermont from the New Hampshire Grants. Hazelton was born in 1755; Sullivan in 1777, Sophia in 1779 (she married Frederick Hosmer in 1805); Libbeus in 1781 (married Polly Holcomb, daughter of Eli and Zeruiah, 1805, secondly married Rebecca Carter Vaughn, 1830); Philothesis was born in 1783 (married Elisha Giddings); Josiah, in 1797; Irmi in 1789; Elijah Stanton in 1791, Betsy in 1793. Four more children blessed the household of Josiah and Zeruiah: John, born February 24, 1800, thought to be the first white child born in Rochester (married Sarah King); Delinda, born 1802; LeRoy, born 1804, George W. born 1807.

From August 2 to November 30, 1780, he served as Lieutenant in Captain William Hutching's Company, Major Ebenezer Allen's detachment, Vermont State Militia. He was captain from the beginning of the campaign in 1781 until June 30, 1781 in his brother-in-law's (Colonel Samuel Fletcher's) battalion, and again captain in the same command at Arlington from July 1-November 21, 1781. From September 10-29, 1782, he was "assisting the sheriff." There is also a record of service with Captain Sherebiah C. Butts' Company, Canterbury, 4th Regiment. In January, 1784, he commanded 53 Townsend militia men that crushed the Yorkers in a conflict at Brattleboro.

After the war, he lived at Windham, Vermont; Townsend, Vermont; Upton, Mass.; then purchased his 320 Chili acres in 1795. He moved to Rochester to operate the 36' x 30' mill on the river bank, then moved his family four miles downriver to King's Landing where the mother died. The next year, he married Zeruiah. About 1806 he moved back to the Chili farm six miles above the falls, but soon afterwards came to reside on Ridge Road, Parma, where he died at his residence near Manitou Road (at Hoosick) on May 10, 1811. He was buried in the Hanford Landing Cemetery, opposite Kodak Park's Lake Avenue gate. (King's Landing had been renamed Hanford's Landing, after Mr. Hanford took over operation of the tavern there.)

When the new township of Northampton was created in 1797, Josiah Fish was elected the first supervisor. He continued in that capacity through 1802. In 1801 he was a member of a three-man bridge committee responsible for securing a bridge across the Deep Hollow on Lake Avenue near Maplewood Park. He was also a pathmaster, and from 1800-1802 served as an election inspector.



Josiah, Sr., had Continental money in his possession, and often said that he was with the Continentals on Lake Champlain.



Wright Schoolhouse, Dunbar Road.

### Private Noah Downs: General Sullivan's Brave Campaigner

"Complete destruction . . ." wrote George Washington's unfaltering quill on May 31, 1779. "The immediate object is the total destruction and devastation of the settlements of the Six Nations and the capture of as many persons as possible . . . pushing the Indians the greatest practicable distance from their settlements and our frontiers . . . throwing them wholly on the British enemy . . . making destruction of their settlements so complete they cannot derive succor."

Almost daily, reports of massacre and devastation by the tomahawks and torches of the Six Nations and their Tory allies had been reaching the compassionate general. Wyoming Valley had been laid waste in July, 1778 in a terrible massacre. On November 11, 1778, Brant and Butler's army of 600, including 150 Tories, 50 soldiers and 400 ferocious Iroquois had mercilessly wiped out the Cherry Valley settlement. In this fifth year of the Revolution, while the seaport towns of the south lay wasted, Washington nevertheless surmised that he would win the Revolution, and that future settlement of the western lands would depend upon the eradication of the Indian villages. Expelling the warriors, driving them on to lands further west, would make possible claims to the ownership of these desirable lands once the war, now winding to a close, had ended. If the nation were not to be forever locked to a rocky coast, the arable west should be won . . . and what better way than by warfare against a hated enemy? The Indian lands must be taken. The Indians must be driven out. Erasing their sustenance was the solution. Atrocities would be repaid with atrocities. Who could question its justice?

Through unbroken wilderness, across deep and rapid streams, through dense thickets and swamps and over high mountains there marched accordingly by summer harvest season more than one-third of Washington's army . . . marching westward, assigned to remove the Indian menace from the New York frontiers and claim their lands for the white settlers who would eagerly follow. Not a blade of corn or a dwelling would be spared in the lush Genesee River valley, where corn stalks grew 18 feet high, with huge 22" ears. Burgeoning fruit trees, buttonwood trees 21' around, black walnut trees with 4' trunks, all would perish. The lush, high grasses would be burned.

It was a herculean effort to move an army of this magnitude through the uncut wilderness, accompanied by 1,520 in the New York brigade, 313 in the 6th Massachusetts, 174 in Pennsylvania's 4th Artillery, 100 of Morgan's famous riflemen, 1,411 in General Maxwell's New Jersey regiments, 1,536 of Poor's New Hampshire and Massachusetts men, 1,398 in Hand's Pennsylvanians and 1,520 in Clinton's New York units—plus hundreds of boatmen, drivers of cattle and horses, hospital and medical helpers, commissary and quartermaster helpers, civilians hauling hundreds of boats and wagons and thousands of animals, including pack horses and beef cattle to provide 20 pounds of beef and 27 pounds of flour per man. Also five artillery pieces.

Hundreds of footsore miles later, in fair weather and with high spirits, though in rags and emaciated, the horses worn down and the men half naked, Sullivan's victorious army arrived at Tioga, Pennsylvania on September 30th, their mission accomplished. Starvation and smallpox plus the severe 8' snows at Ft. Niagara that winter would finish the annihilation of the Iroquois. Now 39-year-old Major General John Sullivan, claiming poor health, would retire with honor in November, returning to his law practice and his former world of elegantly embroidered waistcoats and splendid mansions, later to serve in Congress, as Attorney General and as chief magistrate of New Hampshire.

Gone were the beautiful fields of corn, squash, potatoes, watermelon, beans, cucumbers, fruit orchards—some with as many as 1,200 trees planted by the early Jesuit missionaries; gone were the Indians' pumpkins, onions, turnips, cabbages, peaches, carrots, apples, parsnips, peas. Their painted log houses were all gone as well: Kanadasaga (Geneva), the principal village of 50 houses, had been burned on September 7th; Genesee Castle (Chenesees Castle) with 128 houses, burned on September 14, along with thousands of fruit trees, corn 18' high, fields of timothy 5' high, grasses growing 10' high.

Fourteen of Sullivan's campaigners had been killed in a horrible ambush at





Wright-Hurlbutt house, Dunbar Road

Groveland near Cuylerville in Livingston County, midway between Genesee and Moscow, near Little Beard's Town, then an important village and Indian capital. Three had been killed and 40 wounded at the battle of Newton near Elmira—a slight price for so glorious an accomplishment: not an Indian would dare to live in the fertile lands of western New York now. Not an Indian had been seen on the return march, nor a gun fired for 80 miles. The devastation was complete except for one or two aged squaws that even the Indians had abandoned. They would probably soon starve, even though a pitying Sullivan left some foodstocks with them.

In his final report to His Excellency John Jay, Esquire, General John Sullivan reported the destruction of 40 villages, hundreds of Indian houses, some well painted; 160,000 bushels of corn destroyed, many orchards, vegetables of all descriptions, with the loss of less than 40 men during the entire scorched earth expedition. Virtually every Indian was driven out of the country to starve and die when winter came to Ft. Niagara.

It had not been a ferocious campaign, all things considered: the men played cards and danced, drank and ate heartily of roast pig, turtle soup, beef and fish, gorging themselves on green corn and fresh fruit. The good health and spirits, along with an abundance of alcoholic spirits meant that only a few had to be executed for treason and desertion. There was only one frontal encounter, whence the Indians fled despite Colonel John Butler's entreaties to stand and fight again. Instead, he had to call for the light infantry of the King's Royal Regiment to meet his Rangers at Butler's Gap at Irondequoit Bay (now Ellison Park) and boat them back to safety at Niagara. His rangers, splendidly dressed in dark green coats faced with scarlet, green waist coats and buckskin leggings, black leather skullcaps with black cockades on the left side, brass plates with the letters "G.R." (Georgius Rex) and natty buff leather belts crossed on the breast and held in place by brass plates could no longer impress the Indians, while they saw an army of 6,000 with artillery fast following their moccasined footsteps.

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Noah was 56 when he applied for his military pension in Bennington, Vermont, on May 10, 1818, ten days after his birthday (3/1/1818). He was 79 when he died on July 30, 1841 and came to rest in the family's burying plot at the Wright Settlement, a crossroads hamlet begun by the Wright brothers: Jesse, born in 1785; Gad born in 1784; Barber, born 1793 and Nathan, born 1794. They came there in 1811 with their mother, Elizabeth White Wright, and several sisters. Elizabeth's grave is in the center of the old cemetery. The Wright line has been traced back to Lt. Abel Wright, early pioneer of Springfield, Massachusetts, whose wife died in October, 1708, after being scalped in an Indian attack the previous

**OPPOSITE:**

Noah Downs utters a fierce war cry at loudly howling Iroquois as his regiment attempts to flank the savages in a fierce, uphill struggle at Newtown, near present-day Elmira. Indian arrows fell like rain around them as the patriots painfully advanced up the steep, wooded hillside, where the grass soon ran red with white and Indian blood. Frightened by the artillery and bayonets, the Iroquois gave way, despite Butler's frantic entreaties.

July. His son, Henry, was also killed and his wife and children carried into captivity into Canada. Benjamin<sup>2</sup> fathered Henry, Jr.<sup>3</sup>, father of Ezekiel, the parent of Gad<sup>5</sup>, the sire of the Parma families, sixth generation descendants of the Springfield founding father.

While the progenitor, Lt. Abel, spent 70 years taming the Connecticut valley wilderness, Gad felled only one acre of solid forest in Parma and then left the trees lying, returning east in discouragement to make salt, perhaps at Syracuse. Margaret Downs Wright, his wife, refused to accompany him and remained at Wright's Corners. In his absence, she planted corn and potatoes in the spots where no trees were lying. When Gad returned and found the corn and potatoes flourishing, he decided to remain! Margaret had demonstrated some of the pluck of her brave parent, who had served as a private from Deering, New Hampshire, in Captain William Rowell's Company of Colonel George Reid's 6th Company, 2nd New Hampshire Regiment, from May or June, 1778 to April or May, 1783, when he left the service at Newburg, N.Y.

Noah related that he served with General Sullivan in his 1779 expedition to the Indian Country, attached to General Poor's brigade which presented the fierce frontal bayonet attack in the battle of Newtown, near present-day Elmira. He said that he was guarding Fort Herkimer when it was attacked by the Indians in 1782, his second Indian attack. Washington, D.C. military pension records show that he received an \$8 monthly pension in Vermont until 1834, when he moved to New York, Herkimer County. Professor Albert Hazen Wright's important 30-year research study on the participants of the Sullivan Expedition lists him as one of 21 privates in the 6th company under Captain William Rowell, Lieutenant Colonel George Reid, General Enoch Poor's 2nd Brigade. Prof. Wright's eminent study, inspired by his ancestor, Noah Downs, and based on painstaking analysis of the actual regimental rosters of men, identified nearly 6,000 participants, and was published by the New York Historical Source Studies, Cornell University, where Wright was for many years a professor. He collected the evidence which disproves the legend that most of the early settlers of New York State were veterans of this campaign, for of all Parma's known veterans, only Noah Downs marched with Sullivan's brave little army. And he arrived long after his son-in-law became the pioneer in 1811.

At Bennington on June 22, 1820, Noah wrote that he was a day laborer, but unable to work since January, 1819, because of severe sickness. Residing with him were three children: Laura Downs, aged 17; Roxey Downs, aged 14; Clarissa, aged 9, and his 57-year-old wife, Margaret, who was also seriously ill. She fainted several times daily. Noah listed his meagre possessions as: 1 old desk, 2 old razors and a lather box, 1 old pine chest, 14 pounds of flax, 1 table, 1 pig three months' old, 1 fowling piece, 1 small iron pot, 1 axe, two kettles, 1 broken silver watch, 1 old water pail, an old saddle almost worn out, 12 earthen plates, 1 bridle with the bits broken, 1 set of tea cups and saucers, 1 dozen knives and forks, 5 junk bottles, 6 iron spoons, 1 old hoe, 1 candlestick, 1 shovel and tongs, 2 barrels, 1 spider (frying pan), 3 white earthen bowls and 1 pitcher, also debts due to him of \$4.92. There is no mention of beds, bedding or other furniture or clothing.

He never claimed the bounty land he was entitled to, perhaps being too ill to create a new farm in the western lands of Michigan and Ohio. After September 4, 1834, he had moved to Herkimer, N.Y. where peace and security had come to the frontiers he once guarded. He was in Parma by 1840 when the census taker found him living with the Wrights. Whether he lived in the old Wright family homestead, now enlarged and modernized as the residence of Merton and Elizabeth Wright Hurlbutt, or in an older log house which once stood south of it, is somewhat uncertain. But, surely, he followed his daughter here and came to rest finally in the cemetery near her, where today the vinca grows silently, an evergreen memorial to an heroic Indian fighter.

Most of the houses around the settlement were built by Nathan Wright, a carpenter. His descendants said the family hailed from Labrador, N.H. The Wrights were in Oneida County in 1810, in the Black River country. Both Nathan and Barber received bounty lands for their service in the War of 1812.

Margaret Downs Wright was a charter member of the Free Will Baptist Church





"The land of the rushing river,  
the thundering cataract and the  
jeweled lakes is yours . . . all these  
broad blooming fields, these  
wooded hills and laughing valleys  
are yours—yours alone."

Chief Strong  
in his address to Red Jacket

of Parma organized in the Wright Schoolhouse, Dunbar Road. Gad<sup>6</sup> was one of the first deacons. Each Sunday, they fed and entertained the Rev. Eli Hannibal of Ridge Road, after he preached at the Sunday services. The Free Will Baptist Church of East Hamlin was also born out of the congregation in the schoolhouse. As the numbers grew too large for the building to accommodate them the group divided in 1831, part going to Walker, part to Hilton thus establishing the present Baptist churches of both communities.

Gad's descendant, Delos Wright, became Hilton Village President in 1914. Descendants of other Wrights were Myron Roberts, Parma supervisor, 1906-11 and 1916-35 and Douglas Hurlbutt, Hilton mayor until 1974. In the 1930s, Roberts successfully spearheaded a drive to construct good roads throughout Monroe County. Nor did he forget his ancestors: at his direction town crews periodically cut the weeds in the little pioneer cemeteries.

### **Counradt Bush: Albany County Militia . . .**

Hendrick Albertus Bosch, born in Leyden, Holland, arrived in America from Amsterdam in the ship "Faith" in 1661. Three wives graced his domicile, and among his progeny was Hendrick Bosch who married Marie VanderBeck in 1698. Their children were: Hendricks, baptized in 1699; Coenradus, baptized 1701; Elsie born 1703 and Eighberck, 1705. Eighberck joined a Hackensack, New Jersey church on September 16, 1729. Descendants included Hendrick and Gysbert, the former born in 1733 and the latter in 1734. Gysbert (Builbard, Gilbert) lived in Schaghticoke, N.Y. about 1757 and later in Ontario County. He married Hester Rykeman (Esther Ryce) and Hendrick married Catherine Ryche. New York State treasurer's certificates show that he served as a private in Captain Hendrick Vanderhoof's company of Lt. Colonel John Rensselaer's 14th Regiment, Albany County Militia, Hoosack and Schaghticoke districts.

Gilbert's son, Counradt (Conrad) died in Parma, August 15, 1832, aged 72 years, 9 months, two days and came to eternal rest in Parma Union Cemetery. He was married at the Schaghticoke Church, where the Old Dutch Church's register lists the marriage on August 12, 1782 of Koenraad Boss en Cattrina Fisher. Catherine Fisher died January 21, 1851, aged 87 years. Conrad's sister, Rachel, married Christian Fisher, Jr. Johhannes married Johannetya and produced Johannes and Gilbert; another sister was Maryte who married Jonathan Oakley and produced Hester and Sarah; Rebecca married Adam Fisher, Hester, Hendrick (Henry) who came to Parma, and Peter.

Conrad Bush served as a private and then as corporal in the same company as Gilbert. Probably born in Albany County, New York and variously listed as Counradt, Conrad, Conrodt, Conradus, he was living in Schaghticoke in 1776, in Schenectady in 1789 and in 1790 a merchant's receipt for flour lists Gilbert as a Cannadasago (sic.) resident. Gilbert and Conrodt bought land in 1795 in lot 8 of the gore near Geneva. This land Counrodt sold for \$3,848.90 in 1830. His heirs were listed as Rachel, wife of Silas Leonard; Peter, Abby Moody, Gilbert (married Mary Holmes), Henry, Rachel DeWitt, William Lewis and wife Rebecca; William McKinney and wife, Polly and Counradt's widow, Catherine.

Christopher died November 1, 1870. Christian, Hester and most of the family had settled at the west end of Parma Center Road near Rice's Corners (where Parma Center Road intersects the town line road.)

Peter Bush, millright, owned and operated the Parma Center Road mill before moving to Balcom's Mills, Murray . . . where he was deeded 52 acres in lot 110, Kendall, on April 10, 1835.

Conrad and Christian began buying land in Parma in 1818. The family genealogy says that they did not move here until 1832, but another genealogy lists the birth of a daughter, Catherine, to Christopher and Polly in 1820. The 1855 census report shows that Christopher, 64, born in Seneca, Ontario county, arrived here in 1825. He appears in the 1820 Parma census, however, as does Henry. Conrad, born November 13, 1759, Albany county, enlisted August 14, 1779 in Lt. Colonel Ebenezer Stevens Line, as an artillery corporal in the 2nd Continental Artillery.

## Reuben Putnam: Hudson River Scout

"Real estate I have none," wrote Reuben Putnam of Burritt Road when he applied for an \$8 a month pension in 1820.

"I am in possession of one equal half of 51 acres of land situate in Parma in said county on which there are 17 acres improved. The land is owned by Robert Troop and there is due him for said lot \$229, agreeable to purchase and interest seven years, makes the total amount due \$41.00.

He listed his personal property as one horse, old and poor; 1 hoe, 1 axe, 1 sickle. He added that his household furniture was all burnt in his house in October, 1818, and that he had some debts.

"My occupation is a farmer. I am a cripple and am not able to labor. I have three children under age, viz: Ira, aged 16; Parks (Parkis or Parkhurst), aged 9; George W., 18, then apprenticed to a blacksmith in Vermont. (Later, George married Melinda Hosmer and became Hilton's village smithy.) "I live with my son, Reuben of Parma . . . have no wife and do not keep house . . ." Sutton, Massachusetts records show that Reuben married Betsy Cummings. Reuben, Jr. was born in New Hampshire in 1795, and his sister Huldah (married Lemuel Hazen) was born at Lebanon, N.H. in 1793.

On April 13, 1818, Reuben, Sr., appeared before Ontario County Court of Common Pleas, stating his residence as the township of Ontario, formerly of Stafford, Connecticut, where on January 26, 1777, he entered continental service and was mustered under Captain Ames Walbridge in the regiment commanded by Colonel Charles Webb. At the expiration of the term, January 24, 1780, he received an honorable discharge from Lt. Col. J. Hait then commanding the regiment. Payslips indicate he served in Lt. Col. Isaac Sherman's regiment of foot (infantry) through November, 1778, then was commanded by Col. Zebulon Butler, who was reassigned to the unit after the Wyoming Valley massacre of his troops.

Reuben Putnam personally saw George Washington many times: at Valley Forge, on the battlefields, and in times of peace. He often told his daughter about the time, after the war, that Washington rode through his New England community on a white horse. The entire community threw bouquets and wreaths of flowers under the horse's feet. As the townsfolk strewed roses in his path, Reuben undoubtedly mused about his years of service at two pounds a month (about \$5), slightly less than the soldier's usual pay of "a shilling a day." (24½¢).

Reuben gave no description of his experiences in the Continental Army, but the record of the 2nd Connecticut units show that Webb's regiment proceeded from Danbury to Peekskill on the Hudson, where Major General Israel Putnam, Reuben's distant cousin, took command July 1st. By October 1st, only one brigade (Parsons) was left, all having been called to the aid of General Washington, except those of Wyllys, Webb and Meigs. During this interval, "Old Put" selected the site that would become West Point. (See cover illustration). There his cousin, Rufus Putnam, later built Ft. Putnam and other fortifications hewn into solid rock.

When Sir Henry Clinton sailed up the Hudson to join Burgoyne in a pincers movement, he easily captured Fort Clinton and Fort Montgomery and burned Kingston. Outnumbered, General Putnam marched his three companies up the Hudson to put himself between Clinton and General Gates at Saratoga. But Clinton returned to New York City and so Putnam retraced his steps to Peekskill. On November 14, Webb's Continentals were called to Pennsylvania, and enroute engaged in the battle of Red Bank, December 8, 1777. Seriously wounded and unsupported, the units fell back and gave up ground to the enemy. That winter they were among the 10,000 naked, hungry soldiers shivering in the snows of Valley Forge. The six Connecticut regiments drilling under Baron von Steuben left bloody footprints in the snow.

That summer, the British withdrew from Pennsylvania and headed towards New York City. Overtaken near Monmouth Court House, they felt the results of von Steuben's winter training. This time, George Washington tasted victory. Now, his army could rest on its laurels at White Plains as winter again approached. Reuben Putnam's infantry unit was sent in December to guard Woodbury. Emblazoned in gold on the Connecticut standards and drums were the colony's



Putnam Homestead,  
Burritt Road

"No spot on earth  
Not the plains of Marathon,  
Nor the passes of Sempach,  
Nor the place of the Bastille,  
Nor the dykes of Holland,  
Nor the moors of England,  
Is so sacred in the history  
Of the struggle for human liberty  
As Valley Forge."  
Cyrus Townsend Brady

motto: "Qui transtulit, sustinet." (God, who transplanted us hither, will support us.) General Huntington's words to his troops on the morning of Monmouth Battle had come true: "... they will preserve cool and determined spirit, and confiding in the Justice of their cause, and in the God of Heaven, they will gain honor to themselves and their Country." Perhaps those thoughts sustained them that unusually frigid winter of 1780, when the Connecticut soldiers were once again shoeless and stockingless in the merciless snows.

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After his home and all his worldly possessions were lost in the fire at Ontario in 1818, Reuben came to live with his son, at the Burritt Road farm, and his daughter, Huldah later came on the new Erie Canal and taught school at the Atchinson settlement. She married Lemuel Hazen, born in Richmond, Ontario County, pioneer farmer near Lake Ontario. Clearing his tract in north Parma near the lake with the help of his twin sons, he decided to cut a hole through the ice to quench their thirst. He and Edward drank and died from fever. Twin son Reuben, who did not drink, survived. James Monroe Hazen who died young and Henry Haskell Hazen were their other children.

Lemuel Hazen's brother, Edward, married Hannah Putnam, Huldah's sister, born in New Hampshire in 1790. In the spring of 1835, he moved to Novi, Michigan. The Hazens had been at Swanzey, N.H., until 1785 when they purchased land in Fulham, Vermont. In the early 1790s, they moved to Richmond. Henry, Jacob, Caroline, James and Paul were born at Dummerston, Vermont; Lemuel, Edward, Jonathan, Jesse, Fanny and George Washington Hazen were born in Richmond. For this family, Hazen Street was named, at Hilton village. Jesse moved to Novi, Michigan in 34. There his daughter, Fanny, married Thomas J. Bartlett of Clarkson in 1857. Returning, they gave their names to Bartlett's Corners, at the intersection of North Avenue and Curtis Road, also called "Bartlett's Shop," since Bartlett had his blacksmith shop there. Jesse's daughter, Mary, married Lewis Putnam, son of George and Malinda Hosmer Putnam and grandson of Reuben, Jr. Meanwhile, Lemuel's Henry Haskell Hazen, had married Malvina Atchinson; Reuben Putnam Hazen had married Emily Ann Wilder, then Jane Berridge Peake.

George Putnam had his blacksmith shop nearly opposite present Hazen Street, and many of the early families were related through marriage. It was probably for Union, Connecticut, that Hilton received its early name: "Unionville." Union is near Stafford and Tolland, Connecticut, from whence the Putnams and Atchinsons hailed.

Reuben Putnam, Sr. may be buried in the old Atchinson family cemetery which adjoined his farm, for he died before Reuben, Jr. sold the farm to Johnson Servis for \$2,000 on April 1, 1851. His daughter, Mary (Polly) had married Simeon Orville Daggett in March, 1846, and Reuben and Mary probably went to live with them on the Daggett's Moul Road farm, diagonally opposite from "the little school house over the marsh" as the Daggett school on Moul Road was called. On January 14, 1857, the Daggets sold 15 acres in the south part of lot 18 and 56 acres in the north part of lot 20 to John Henry, for \$4,760.

By 1855, the census taker found Huldah Putnam Hazen living with her brother, Reuben, who had come as an 1818 pioneer. In the old Smith (Curtis) cemetery on North Avenue at Dunbar Road are the graves of Clarissa Banton Putnam, died May 14, 1855, (daughter of George and Malinda), aged 18 years, 8 months, 4 days; she died four days after Cynthia, who died June 6, 1855, aged 52 (wife of Reuben, Jr.). Reuben, Jr., died June 7, 1855, one day later, aged 60, perhaps the victim of an epidemic disease.

Putnams of America descend from John Putnam of Aston Abbots County, Bucks, England, born about 1580 and his wife, Priscilla, who came to New England some time after 1627 and settled in Salem (now Danvers) Massachusetts, the site of the famed witch trials. John is first mentioned in Salem records in 1640/1 as a well-to-do farmer, though family legend says he came in 1634. His sireling, Lt. Thomas, born 1614/15, married Ann Holyoke in 1643, then Mary Veren. Their son, Joseph, born in 1669, married Elizabeth, daughter of Israel and Elizabeth Hawthorne Porter of Salem, sister of the Hon. John Hawthorne, "the witchcraft



judge." But the Joseph Putnams opposed the trials. Their son, Israel, who became the nation's senior major general, married Hannah Pope, then Deborah Lathrop Gardiner, widow of John Gardiner of Gardiner's Island. She died at the Peekskill headquarters, having been a prisoner of the British.

Reuben Putnam's line of descent was John, Nathaniel, Benjamin Cornelius, and Cornelius. Cornelius<sup>5</sup>, his father, may have been a shoemaker, as shoemaker's tools were among the inventory of his estate at Stafford, Connecticut. Other members of the family were David, John, Lucy, Molly, Betty and Sarah. By 1790, the Putnams were in Lebanon, Grafton County, N.H.



### **Jacob Talmadge: Wounded in Action**

Thomas Talmadge of Charleston, Massachusetts, 1631, moved to Boston, Lynne, Southampton, Long Island, then East Hampton, L.I., and produced Captain Thomas Talmadge of Lynn and Southampton, founder of East Hampton in 1649. His son, Nathaniel, born in 1643, sired John in 1678. John first married Experience Miller, then Ann. Their 18 children included Josiah who married Phebe Dibble (later Hannah Williams) and moved to Branford, Connecticut.

Jacob Talmadge, Revolutionary soldier of Branford, may have been their kin. Jacob was born in Branford September 2, 1749, was wounded in battle, lived for a time at Wolcott, Connecticut, later at Plymouth, Connecticut, then moved to Monroe County to live with his son, Levi, who had come with a wagon train to Geneseo. Thirty-eight souls, enticed by a speech of James Wadsworth at Wolcott, N.H. comprised that 1803 convoy of seven wagons. An active member of the Episcopal Church at Wolcott, Jacob Talmadge, farmer, first married Elizabeth Gaylord who died May 23, 1786, then Ruth Osborn, who passed away March 8, 1789. His issue were: Elizabeth, born November 12, 1775 who married Lemuel Larkin and died in Connecticut in 1833; Hannah, born May 12, 1878; Adah, born in 1780, died in 1813, and Levi, born 1781 at Wolcott.

Levi worked for a year or two at Geneseo, and was also an Indian trader. He moved to Bergen in 1809 and to Parma Corners in 1811, where he purchased the 1809 tavern kept by the Davis brothers on the present site of Parma Corners Park. It was a blockhouse tavern, with squared logs. Adjacent to the tavern was the first frame barn in Parma. In 1820 Levi opened a larger hotel and discontinued the old log tavern. He married Mary, widow of David Franklin. She died April 24, 1842.

Levi Talmadge was pressed into service as a teamster from August 4th to September 21, 1814, to carry supplies from Parma Corners to Rochester for Colonel Morgan of Kentucky, for which he received 160 acres of bounty land after the War of 1812. In 1823 Levi was chosen Town Manager. He was an active Republican committeeman.

On February 16, 1824, aged 84, Jacob passed to his eternal reward.

When the 1855 census was taken, Levi classified himself as a farmer. Unice Cook, 24, a daughter born in Livingston county was living with him, as was Patrick Hinds, 25, an Irish servant. Her name is Eunice on five property deeds recorded at the county court house.

### **David Hilton**

David Hilton served with the Massachusetts troops under Captain Joseph Sargent, Colonel Josiah Whitney from 1777-1778.

Born in Lunenburg, Massachusetts in 1755, he married Anna Hammond, born 1754. Mr. Hilton died October 18, 1822 and is buried in Evergreen cemetery, North Chili, besides another wife, Mary, who died June 4, 1812, aged 61 years.

He came to Parma from Charleston, Ontario County and resided here several years before moving to Chili. In 1806 he purchased 25 acres at Charleston, but by 1815 he was an overseer of highways in Parma.

"The time is now near at hand which must probably determine whether Americans are to be free men or slaves; whether they are to have any property they can call their own; whether their houses and farms are to be pillaged and destroyed, and themselves consigned to a state of wretchedness from which no human efforts will deliver them. The fate of unborn millions will now depend, under God, on the courage and conduct of this army. Our cruel and unrelenting enemy leaves us only the choice of brave resistance, or the most abject submission. We have, therefore, to resolve to conquer or die."

George Washington

## The Veterans at Hoosick—A Family Affair

"To the heroes of 1776 . . . who were moved to their rebellion by the inspiration of God." (Revolutionary soldiers toast, July 4, 1831, Rochester, N.Y.)

Relatives from Windhall, Bennington, Vermont, near Hoosick, N.Y. formed the nucleus of the settlement at West Greece, a crossroads community at the intersection of Manitou Road (the town line) and Ridge Road West. Straddling the town line stood the property of the First Congregational Society of Christ of Parma and Greece organized in 1819. A sanctuary 50' x 40' x 26' was erected in 1824 by a work crew supervised by Jonathan Sheldon, carpenter and cabinetmaker. It was the first religious structure erected on Ridge Road west of the Genesee River.

The larger part of the community and most of its homes lay in Greece, hence its official name: "West Greece." The burying ground and school occupied much of the southeast corner in Parma; a blacksmith shop and some residences stood on the northwest corner in Parma; a tavern was on the northeast corner in Greece.

When Manitou Road was straightened out the road was cut directly through the churchyard, horrifying area residents who gazed at trunked coffins, with parts of skeletons protruding. They shuddered at the macabre sight as road-builders recklessly hewed a "bee line" through the cemetery, disregarding the sacred burials to create a straight aisle for the sacred horseless carriages. By then, the old abandoned church, had been demolished by joint order of the Greece and Parma town boards. They had met at the West Greece tavern to ponder and straightway proclaimed it a public nuisance.

Hoosick slowly became only a memory as most of its structures disappeared, burned or were relocated, but the remnants of the burying grounds remain, nicknamed "Boot Hill" by Senator Fred Eckert, one-time Greece Supervisor. The New York State Highway Department has appropriated the land around it, the once majestic locust trees are dying, and sumac flourishes, despite valiant cleanup attempts by Scouts and annual maintenance attempts by the Parma Highway Department. The blacksmith shop lies in fragments under the landfill that replaced it. Fire has eaten away the heart of Hoosick. The inn burned, the corner store burned in 1974, and a purposely set fire forever destroyed the hand-hewn timbers of the home of Dr. Samuel Beach Bradley, early physician and mentor who reputedly brought the community its colloquial name because each time that he departed with his horse and rig to care for a patient, Mrs. Maneeley next door would call out to him: "Dr. Bradley, Dr. Bradley, who's sick? Who's Sick?" The kindly physician's office has been moved over to the Parma side of the road, where it serves as a tool house, and a blacktop driveway has been spread over the site of his home where so many suffering patients once found relief. The once beautiful orchards of apples and peaches have disappeared, the old Methodist Church (later Concordia Lutheran Church) has been demolished, also its parsonage. Again the sacred motor car has engulfed Hoosick, for now Vanderstein's Ford agency occupies most of the southeast corner.

The old church records of the First Church of Christ of Ogden relate that John Kile and his wife from Winhall, Vermont, joined that church December 1, 1822. Their relatives, Deacon Asa Beebe and his wife, Sarah Day Beebe, joined from Winhall's Congregational Church on March 7, 1824. Ephraim Day brought his membership from Winhall Church March 7, 1826, Persis Day brought her letter from there August 3, 1832. Mrs. Bethia Reed came from the Presbyterian Church in Gorham June 28, 1834 and on October 2, 1835, John, Jerusha, Mary, Cynthia and John Kile, Jr., were dismissed. Benjamin B. Hale had taken his letter July 2, 1835, shortly after Orrin Hale was excommunicated for the heresy of denying the Trinity (Christ and the Holy Ghost), and on July 11, 1837, Roderick Beebe joined the church in Chagrin Falls, Ohio. On December 26, 1839 Orrin Beebe and several other members were listed as "removed from this vicinity and several years absent" and so were dropped from the church rolls.

Joining the church soon after the Kiles was Michael Beach, who had returned from Pittsford and was received into the fellowship of the church on April 7, 1820. Perhaps he was living with his grandson, Stephen Beach.

## **Benjamin Barrett**

Born in 1760 in Hinsdale, New Hampshire, Benjamin Barrett was the son of a patriot, Joseph Barrett, and his wife, Sarah Brooks Barrett. He served as a private under Captain Barrett and Captain Benjamin Mann, with Colonel Moses Nichol's New Hampshire Troops.

In 1782, he married Dorothy Day. She died in 1829 at the age of 68 and is buried beside him at West Greece Cemetery, Parma. Two years afterwards, on December 12, 1831, Benjamin entered into rest.

Captain John Pratt's payroll presented in Bennington in 1782 lists a Benjamin Barrett who served 145 days and traveled 90 miles in the infantry company of Colonel Ebenezer Walbridge's battalion of 1781. It is not known whether this is the same Benjamin Barrett, but he did come to Greece from Bennington, Vermont, as did his in-laws.

Mr. Barrett was already living in this county when he paid Moses and Susanna Everet \$4,000 for 116 acres in lot 149 on the southeast corner at Hoosick on August 14, 1815. On April 10, 1816, he bought 26 additional acres in that lot from James and Sally Bond of Parma for \$260. January 21, 1818, Orrin Hale sold him 60.18 acres on the northeast corner of lot 122 on Ridge Road near North Greece Road for \$200. He acquired 73 acres from Alfred and Phylinda Barrett for \$1,314 in lot 131 in 1820, having bought a half share of that lot at the same price in 1819 from Comfort and Sarah Smith of Batavia. On April 19, 1819, 163 acres in lot 150 became his through purchase from Samuel M. Hopkins of Leischester, Genesee County, for \$1,470. On August 7, 1821, he sold the 73 acres to Samuel Clark, son of the late Simeon Clark of Richmond, R.I., for \$900, reserving the crops and rent until August 8th. May 18, 1820, he bought 37 acres in lot 149 from Eli and Eliza Bond, 25 acres of which had been deeded by Moses Everett and 12 acres deeded by James Bond. In return, that same day, May 18, 1820, he sold 70 acres in the midsection of lot 150 to Eli Bond for \$1,000. Frederick and Mary Hanford bought part of lot 117 for \$500 on September 1, 1821 and on August 29 of that year, Asa Beebe of Winhall bought 37 acres on the south side of lot 149 and 54 acres in lot 150 for \$1,350. This land lay between the lands of Alfred Barrett and Eli Bond.

Dr. Bradley was among the other purchasers of land in 149, acquiring an one-acre lot December 22, 1818. Barrett also sold parcels to Hall Colby, John Patterson, Samuel Cushing and Stephen Griffin.

Alfred died June 17, 1821, aged 30, and Philinda died August 28, 1841. Their son Alfred H. died September 16, 1826, aged 13. Benjamin's daughter, Hannah had married Orrin Hale.

Benjamin and John Arnold, Jr. presided at the organization January 31, 1824 of the 1st Congregational Society of Parma and Greece and were among six trustees elected, as was Orrin Hale. Also active in the church were the Reeds, who owned the tavern across the way on the northeast corner. Lewis Groat and Lemuel Bullman acquired the tavern in 1821. Perhaps the tavern was a temperance tavern, for the church insisted on a temperance pledge from its members. The Masonic Lodge also met in the tavern.

When Dr. Bradley purchased slip 10 in the gallery of the church for \$20 on October 3, 1826, Barrett, with whom he had begun boarding March 7, 1826 for 12 shillings a week, was a church trustee and treasurer, and Asa Beebe, another Revolutionary veteran, was also a trustee.

At a meeting of the Friends of Temperance at the schoolhouse near Asa Rowe's on March 11, 1830, a temperance association for Greece was organized as an auxiliary to the Monroe County Temperance Society. Members and their families and laborers employed by them were to entirely abstain from distilled beverages except in the case of illness. Barrett was elected president, Dr. Bradley a member of the executive committee.

Benjamin Barrett's will made December 28, 1829, lists his granddaughter, Dorothy Beebe (Mrs. Minoris Beebe); a grandson, Eliphalet Barrett, Orrin, Henry Comings Barrett, son of Rev. Alfred Barrett, deceased; Hannah (Mrs. Orrin Hale); daughter, Eliza, wife of Hall Colby, and his widow, Charlotte.

The Congregational Church bought part of lot 133 in 1834. It had earlier acquired part of Barrett's property for the church for the token payment of \$1.00.





### Asa Beebe: Express Messenger

Asa Beebe was a lad of 13 when he rode a la Paul Revere as an express messenger during the Danbury Raid of 1777. Born in Colchester, Connecticut, he was in his 88th year when he died on the symbolic date of July 4, 1851.

He married Sarah Day in 1790. She died on Christmas Day, 1849, aged 80. Both are buried in Hoosick Cemetery. Official records call the cemetery Beebe Cemetery.

On August 29, 1821, Asa was still residing in Winhall, Bennington County, Vermont, when he purchased 54 acres in lot 105 and 37 acres on the south side of lot 149 from Benjamin Barrett, husband of Dorothy Day. The year before, on June 26, 1820, Flavius J. Day of Winhall had paid \$1,600 to Mr. Barrett for 60.5 acres on the east side of lot 122, bounded west by the land of Orrin Hale and east by the property of David Close. Flavius J. Day was the brother of Sarah, Asa's wife. Ely and Mary, their parents, were living in Rochester when Ely died April 11, 1840.

The *Rochester Republican* reported on April 25, 1842, that Asa Beebe, Esquire, of Greece had lost his cooper shop which was destroyed by fire about 2 p.m. The house and barn were on fire several times but were saved, although high winds had swept away the shop and \$100 in staves were lost.

The 1850 census taker found Asa living with his son Salmon, who had been born in Vermont in 1816. Rev. Ralph Clapp of the Congregational Church married Miss Abigail Parrish (born 1820) of Greece on February 14, 1843 to Salmon Beebe, and in 1844 their son, Albert, was born, followed by Silas, 1845; Lydia, 1847. In 1864 Salmon sold William Murray 67 acres in Greece for \$6,815.

Albert Parrish Beebe married Emma R. Truesdale in January, 1869. When he died in 1932 at his home on Manitou Road, Parma, the beautiful farmhouse south of the cemetery, he had become prominent throughout the county, active in Republican politics, a member of the county Board of Supervisors as Parma Supervisor, 1892-1905, and state senator from the 4th assembly district, 1905-6. A president of the Monroe County Pioneers Association, he had produced a son, Wilbur S., an insurance broker who died June 19, 1937; granddaughters Mrs. Harold H. Parce of Fairport and Mrs. Sterling S. Sweet of Shoremont; two great-grandchildren. His brother, Silas, was then living in Rochester.

☆ ☆ ☆

On Friday, the 25th of April, 1777, a mild sunny afternoon, 26 vessels carrying 2,000 British troops sailed from Long Island Sound into the Saugatuck River, landing on the beach by Compo Hill. That Governor William Tryon had come to destroy the patriots' military stores at Danbury, Connecticut, was immediately obvious to the patriots. General Silliman of the Connecticut militia immediately sent out express riders to warn the countryside, alarm the militia and collect a corps. Five hundred troops reached nearby Bethel in a heavy rain at 11 p.m. The beautiful day had turned into a weeping one.

Saturday, April 26, the British arrived at the village of Danbury between one and two o'clock. The community was not aware of their coming until they were about eight miles away. Some fled. The 150 militia men there retreated to Bethel. Barrels of pork and flour were found piled as high as the galleries in the Episcopal Church and two other buildings. They were taken to the street, broken open and destroyed. That night, a drunken army now reduced to about 300, slept peacefully, but by Sunday morning, fearing the reappearance of the militia, Tryon marched away, firebrands having been applied to the houses of all but the Torries. Their homes had been marked for preservation with a cross. Nineteen dwellings, the meeting house, 22 stores and barns were burned, and in their wake they left 3,000 barrels of pork, 1,000 barrels of flour, 400 pounds of beef, 2,000 barrels of grain, 1,600 tents, rum, wine, rice, destroyed carriages and private losses totaling at least \$80,000. Also destroyed were the town records.

Today Asa Beebe's stone lies fallen over in Hoosick Cemetery, moss-covered and grown through with sumac roots. Only the first name can be read on the neglected, deteriorating tombstone of this brave young early patriot.

Relationship to the Kiles is shown by the baptism of Marie Beebe Kile, March 7, 1823; Orrin Gates Kile and Asa Beebe Kile, in 1827.

"The basis of our political system is the right of the people to make and alter their constitutions of government."

George Washington

### **Ephraim Day: Parma's Senior Veteran**

Ephraim Day, born in 1740, was only 14 when he sailed up the St. Lawrence with General Amherst and his troops in 1754, during the French and Indian War campaign which ended French domination in North America. He was, therefore, already a seasoned veteran when the news of the Lexington alarm reached Stafford, Connecticut.

He rendered two days service as a sergeant with the militia, one of the Nutmeg State's some 3,000 minute men hastening towards Lexington.

He was 85 when he died on August 23, 1825 and was laid to rest in Hoosick Cemetery, one of two military burials dating back to French and Indian times. His is the oldest veteran's grave in Parma.

Flavius J. Day, a son, born in 1783, appears in church records as one of the six trustees of the old First Congregational Society of Parma and Greece founded January 31, 1824. Flavius married Kosiah Smith in March, 1835, and died October 9, 1856, leaving his widow Keziah, a son John W., a daughter, Lucy (wife of Aurelius Gunnison).

John Day married Henrietta G. Chase in July, 1866.

Real estate records in the county court house show that the Day family was involved in many property transactions by family members in Parma, Greece and Ogden, including lot 18 in Parma, where the Day property on Ridge Road hugged the steep hillside now buried beneath the Rochester Gas & Electric Company's landfill.

A quaintly carved weeping willow almost obliterated by the winds adorns Ephraim's historic tombstone on that forlorn hillside, at Hoosick Hill.



### **Orrin Hale**

Young Orrin Hale bravely sailed up the St. Lawrence with British General Lord Jeffrey Amherst in the late 1750s, wresting Quebec from the French in that important, expensive, bloody little wilderness campaign known as the French and Indian War.

His son, Orrin, made 16 land purchases in Greece before he died in 1869. Excommunicated from the Congregational Church on June 2, 1835, for the heresy of not accepting the Trinity he had married Hannah Barrett. With Hannah and her family, Eliphalet, Frederic R., Mary A., George A., Rosetta, Candice M., Franklin and, Julius, Orrin was involved in nine sales of land, many on Ridge Road, Greece, after which Catherine and Orrin's names appear on two transactions before widow Catherine, his heir, sold land to William Thompson in 1869. On April 15, 1873, Catherine married Austin Atchinson who lived to be 103. He died October 7, 1893.

The 1850 census lists Orrin, 61, born Massachusetts, farmer; Hannah, 57, born in Connecticut; Franklin, born January 26, 1829, N.Y.; Julius, born 1833, N.Y.; Candice, born 1834, N.Y. Living next door was Eliphalet Hale, cooper, born 1826, N.Y. and wife Rachel A., born 1831, New Jersey, along with John Clark, born 1816 in Vermont. Orrin was captain of the 7th regiment of artillery, Genesee County militia under Colonel William B. Brown of Ogden in 1817, and a founder and one of the first trustees of the First Congregational Society of Parma and Greece. Deacon Hale was appointed trustee of the Union Library of Parma and Greece February 16, 1826. In May, 1862, he lost his 32-year-old daughter, Rosetta (Mrs. Henry Miller) and her child. On February 16, 1869, he passed away. Mr. Ruddock preached his funeral sermon from Revelations 14:13.

"And I heard a voice from Heaven saying: 'Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord henceforth.' Blessed indeed, says the Spirit, 'that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them.'"

Alfred Hale married Elizabeth Beach in the fall of 1836.

The Hale property was sold for \$1,400 to the Congregational Society for its parsonage on August 29, 1871.

Of the patriot father there is no military record, except that his grave in Hoosick Cemetery is one of its two graves of veterans of the French and Indian conflict and the American Revolution. The other grave is that of Hale's neighbor, Ephraim Day, who also served with the handsome British general, Amherst.





## Kitchell Reed

Kitchell Reed, descendant of French and English royalty, was a pioneer settler of Granville in northern New York. He resided for over 40 years at Granville, east of Lake George near the Vermont border.

In 1776, he was a private in Captain Jonathan Bells Company of the 9th Regiment, Connecticut militia, under Colonel John Mead and Major General Wooster. His unit marched to New York City in the fall of 1776 from Stanford, Connecticut.

Born March 8, 1754, at Norwalk he passed away October 11, 1842 and was laid to rest in Hoosick Cemetery. Next to him are his cousins, Seneca Reed, tavern keeper, who died October 23, 1853; Seneca's mother, Mrs. Bethia Hurd Reed, widow of Silas Reed, also a Revolutionary veteran, who died November 21, 1847 at the age of 89 and Seneca and Harriet Murray's daughter, Mary Ann, who died January 29, 1864, 54 years of age. Other children were George, who died young; Lucy who married William Murray and Apeline who married Rufus Darling. Harriet died March 15, 1876, at the age of 83 years.

In 1837 and again in 1839, Seneca was elected president of the Vigilant Society of Parma and Greece, a civic group whose membership was devoted to the protection against and detection of horse thieves.

Deeds show that on June 1, 1835, Harry Thompson of Avon sold Seneca Reed of Greece the northeast corner plot of Hoosick, 8 acres in lot 1 where the hotel stood, for \$1,500. There was a dwelling house adjacent. Twenty-five acres in the south part of lot 34, Parma, passed into his hands for \$500 on October 15, 1849.

Colonel John Reed, born in Cornwall, England, in 1633, an officer for Cromwell, came to America in 1660, wed Ann Derby of Providence, R.I., then Mrs. Scofield of Stanford, Ct. He lived to be 97, and served as attorney for the Crown and deputy of Norwalk. His son, John, married Elizabeth Tuttle, a descendant of English sheriffs and lord mayors, and produced Daniel of Norwalk, handsome husband of Elizabeth Kellog, a descendant of French and Elizabeth aristocracy. Their Abraham married Hannah Bell in 1751 and produced Kitchell, born at Green River, N.Y. He married Mary Doty, born April 24, 1757, died February 22, 1823. Their children were Silas, born July 14, 1779, who married Elizabeth Barnes, and then Polly Kellogg; Kitchel, Jr., born April 24, 1782 who married Salley Dibble; Ezra, born May 18, 1784; Vina, born July 18, 1787, married Silas Walker, a justice and county judge, and Ezra, born March 22, 1791. Kitchell apparently came here to live with his daughter, Mrs. Judge Walker.

Springing from the royal family of England, the Reeds were peculiarly noted for their strong moral and spiritual character, their gigantic size and strength, tallness, longevity and a determined and perserverant nature. Many were preachers or educators.

Pension papers filed in Washington reveal that Kitchell served in Captain Brown's regiment, Colonel Waterbury's Connecticut Line, for 17 months and 28 days, for which he received an annual pension of \$59.78. He entered service at Norwalk County, Connecticut. While still a Granville resident, he appeared August 28, 1832, aged 78, before a Washington County Judge, vouching that he enlisted in April, 1775 in Brown's company, under Major Hobby and Col. Waterbury, near Norwalk, for nine months. He was then a Norwalk resident. The unit marched to New York where they were under the command of General Wolcott, and from there sailed in sloops to Albany, thence marching up the Hudson River to Fort Ann at Whitehall, next by boats to Ticonderoga on Lake Champlain where Kitchell was stationed to guard the fort while General Montgomery proceeded to Canada with the army. This places him at the fort during Michael Beach's tour of duty. Reed remained on duty at Ft. Ti until winter, when his nine months being served, he was discharged with two others by General Schuyler.

In April, 1776, he again volunteered, under Captain Keeler of Norwalk, to guard New York City for one month until troops from the east could arrive. After a month, he was again dismissed. Early in August, he went with the militia under Captain Bell of Stanford, near Norwalk, to defend New York against the British, probably with Colonel Davenport's regiment. After two months, he was dismissed, the British having taken the city.



Early in January, 1777, the militia were again called out to guard the lines near New York, and under Captain Slosson of Stanford he served one month, then was dismissed. In March, he was drafted to serve in Norwalk, guarding the shores, and now he served under Captain Seymour for two months, being dismissed in May after the burning of Danbury. After this, his father and family moved from Norwalk to Columbia County, N.Y., and in June, 1777, he was called out with the militia under Captain Graves of Hillsdale, Colonel VanNess's regiment, to march to Fort Edward and Lake George, where he served one month. In July, they were dismissed, but shortly afterwards, the militia were again called to stop the approach of Burgoyne. Being lame, he was unable to go with the militia to Saratoga.

In August, 1778, he was drafted to march to Cherry Valley for one month, but employed a substitute, Francis Basharoe. In the fall of 1778, the militia were ordered to go in a body against the Indians and British along the Mohawk River. The enemy had burned Schoharie and retreated upriver. At Stone Arabia, they attacked a party of their own men under Colonel Brown, who was killed and the troops retreated. . . . meeting his militia unit enroute. The unit marched westwards in pursuit as far as Oneida Lake, but still being lame, he stayed at Fort Herkimer until their return. Near Fort Plain while in pursuit, they had an engagement with the rear of the enemy. A lieutenant in Kitchell's flanking party was wounded.

Reed later saw Governor George Clinton with the troops. His waiters had made him a bed of boughs to sleep on. Clinton observed that the "feathers" were rather coarse, but would do very well! Isaac Doty also served on that expedition. After a month and a half, the expedition ended.

In the fall of 1780, they were called out on an alarm with the Hillsdale militia from Columbia County and went under Captain Turner to Schenectady. The officers did not know how to form a hollow square, so Captain Turner, a soldier in the Continental Army, readily counted off his men and formed the square. This duty lasted half a month.

In 1784, he moved to Granville, where Isaac Doty was his neighbor when he applied in 1832. His 76-year-old brother, Joel Reed, witnessed the deposition and added that a deceased brother, Jonathan, was in the Continental Army, and another deceased brother, Abraham, frequently served in the militia. Witness John C. Parker added that "no man would be sooner believed!"



#### Uniform Descriptions

Cover: Reuben Putnam—2nd Connecticut. Brown coat faced white, blanket roll, powder horn and bullet bag hanging on his right side, he is holding a Brown Bess musket.

Gen. Israel Putnam: Blue coat faced with buff, buff waistcoat and breeches, officer's boots, purple ribbon over waistcoat denoting the rank of Major General.

P. #29 Private Noah Downs: 2nd New Hampshire Regt.

Sky blue coat faced with red, buckskin waistcoat and breeches, buff cross belts. Buttons on the coat were stamped with the state name and the regiment number. He carries full field equipment including the blanket and knapsack. He wears half gaiters—common for summer marching.

P. #21 Matthias Lane: Monmouth, New Jersey militia

Natural linen hunting shirt, buckskin breeches, leather dragoon helmet with horsehair crest.

P. #13 William Henry: Sedgwick's State Militia

Checkered shirt, brown waistcoat, buckskin breeches. He carries a halberd, a common symbol of Sergeant rank.

P. #3 Mrs. Beach: Dress and apron

P. #17 Jeremiah Perry: Cook's Regiment

Regular civilian clothes since he was a member of the militia attached to the regiment.

### **James Billings: Magna Charta Descendant**

Billings: "A place by the meadow; cut or divided land."

From the several Billings families of New England including those of Nathaniel of Concord, Roger of Dorchester (Boston), Richard of Hadley, William of Stonington, Ct. and John of Richmond Island, Maine, at least 130 soldiers named Billings served in the American Revolution.

One of them, James, descended from James, son of James, son of Ebenezer, son of William, may be buried in the Knapp Cemetery on Parma-Clarkson Town Line Road, where his son, Walter Billings, is interred. The definite place of James Billings' interment is unknown, but his place of residence on the town line makes Knapp Cemetery a strong probability.

James Billings was born October 11, 1751 at Stonington, Connecticut, and entered into rest in November, 1829 at Clarkson. He married Sarah Fitch, daughter of Theophilus Fitch on September 15, 1770. His military service in the Revolution was in the 6th Regiment of Colonel Samuel Holden Parsons of New London, in the 3rd Company of Captain Samuel Prentice and Captain James Eldridge of Stonington, May 6 to December 10, 1775. He enlisted also in the 1st Regiment, Connecticut Line, 1777-1781, under Colonel Jedediah Huntington of Norwich, Captain William Belcher's Company, serving from February 6, 1777 to February 6, 1880. Up to the time of his death in November, 1829, at the age of 88, he had received a total of \$1,087.25 from his yearly military pension of \$96.00.

Descendant of William of Stonington, himself a descendant of two Magna Charta sureties, James was one of 17 members of the Billings and Hewitt families in the Revolution from Stonington, all of them brothers, uncles and cousins. His wife's brother served in the navy of the Revolution. His first duty in 1775 was at Roxbury, Massachusetts, after which he enlisted in the same company for one year and marched to New York City for a year of active service. Early in the winter of 1776 he enlisted for three months with Captain Oliver Grant's company, Colonel Ely's Regiment, for service at Providence, R. I. until February 5, 1777, when he enlisted for three years under Belcher, Prentice and Colonel Josiah Starr of the 1st Connecticut Regiment. His tours of duty took him to New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, as a private. Although he received his \$8 per month pension for wounds and disabilities, no description of them has survived. He came to Clarkson in 1810 from Coeymans, N.Y., was a farmer, lost the use of his arms by rheumatism, and lived with his son, Walter. Other children were James who married Mary Townsend, Thomas, Experience who married Jonathan Braman, Sarah, wife of Gideon Mosher. July 1, 1810, Walter, who had married Nancy Gillis, daughter of John Gillis of New Scotland, Albany county, N.Y. on September 19, 1808, purchased lot 10, section 18, Murray, a 107.67 acre parcel at the historic promontory called Devil's Nose. The site of early shipwrecks, Devil's Nose is now part of Hamlin Beach State Park. A relative stated that the tombstones of James and his wife were in Knapp Cemetery, but no gravestone now exists for this aged veteran, although those of Thomas, Walter and Nancy are there. The many descendants of James Billings included Alpheus, early village blacksmith at North Parma (Hilton). Many descendants migrated further westward to Allegan County, Michigan.

*"Come, all ye Yankee farmers,  
Who wish to change your lot,  
Who've spunk enough to travel  
Beyond your native spot,  
And leave behind the village  
Where Pa and Ma do stay;  
Come, follow me and settle in Michigania!  
Yes, Yea, Yea—in Michigania!"*

The doggerel is painfully true: many, many sons and daughters forsook the area to make their lives anew in Michigan, as their ancestors had forsaken the thin, stoney soils and steep granite mountains of New England, and their progenitors had forsaken Merrie Olde England.

To the Billings family, America is indebted for an outstanding musical heritage. William Billings of Boston, husband of Mary Leonard and later Lucy Swan, introduced the use of the pitch-pipe and the violin-cello, began part-singing in church music, also choir singing. Intensely patriotic, he composed rallying songs for the army and started the first and longest lived musical society in America at Stoughton, Massachusetts.

The main portion of Washington's army had returned to headquarters at Newburgh and West Point after the siege of Yorktown ended October 7, 1781. A general rejoicing was ordered exactly eight years after the battle of Lexington, April 19, 1783, and Billings' hymn was chosen for that occasion.

Following the proclamation of the cessation of hostilities, there were three huzzas, a prayer to the Almighty Ruler, Billings' anthem, a 13-gun salute from West Point and a feu-de-joie the entire length of the line. The soldiers lining the banks at Newburgh on both sides of the Hudson, their guns brightly burnished, their uniforms ragged and motley, heard the familiar fife and drum beats sounding the thrilling notes of peace, not war, and their hearts must certainly have rejoiced and swelled with pride at the words of Billings' anthem which formally closed the American Revolution.

Independence  
by William Billings  
Boston, New England  
1778

*The States, O Lord, with songs of praise  
Shall in Thy strength rejoice,  
And blest with Thy salvation raise  
To Heaven their cheerful voice;  
To the King they shall sing Hallelujah!  
Thy goodness and Thy tender care  
Have all our foes destroyed;  
A covenant of peace Thou madest with us  
And sealed it with Thy blood.  
To the King they shall sing Hallelujah!  
And all the continent shall sing  
Down with this earthly king!  
No king but God!  
To the King they shall sing Hallelujah!  
And the continent shall sing,  
God is our gracious king! Hallelujah!  
They shall sing to the King, Hallelujah!  
Let us sing to the King, Hallelujah!  
God is the King! Amen!  
The Lord is His name! Amen!*

*May his blessing descend,  
World without end,  
On every part of this continent!*

*May harmony and peace  
Begin and never cease,  
And may the strength increase  
Of the continent!  
May American wilds  
Be filled with His smiles,  
And may the nations bow  
To our royal King.  
May Rome, France and Spain  
And all the world proclaim  
The glory and the fame  
Of our royal King.  
God is the King! Amen!  
The Lord is His name! Amen!  
Loud, loudly sing,  
That God is the King!  
May His reign be glorious,  
America victorious,  
And may the earth acknowledge  
God is the King!  
Amen! Amen! Amen!*



## **Sweet Land of Liberty . . . 200 Years Later . . .**

**"Go, proclaim Liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants!"**

Leviticus 25:10

As I recall God's timeless words to Moses on a rainy Easter Sunday in Boston, this March 30, 1975, nearly 200 years have passed since Bob Newman's signal lanterns hung glittering in the Old North Church's ancient timbered tower. Little remains of the world the patriots loved.

Bunker Hill has long since been carelessly leveled for earth fill. The one-year-old Holiday Inn in which I momentarily dwell stands near the site where Paul Revere was apprehended at the start of his storied ride, April 18, 1775. The eye cannot determine where Major General Israel Putnam's impenetrable rail fence barricade defended the Breed's Hill ramparts from a Charles River attack. Roaring expressways, decaying tenements, abandoned spice mills, the Astor Exterminators and a gaggle of deteriorating buildings now blanket the Somerset acreage where Putnam once belabored his men so fiercely but futilely, trying to prod them forward to martyrdom.

Receiving news of the Lexington-Concord confrontations, he had ridden all night from rural Connecticut, to arrive at the front lines overlooking Boston at sunrise. Now, he dared lead where any dared to follow, but few would follow him to the inevitable carnage at Breed's Hill, where once, twice, thrice the British grenadiers advanced to attack.

Most of the Boston the patriot founders knew has long since disappeared, wiped away by horrendous fires, the disintegration of time, and finally by "Urban Renewal," that euphonic, hypocritical platitude for the planned, methodical destruction of the 20th century. Traces of old Boston can be found by eager history buffs surveying the terrain from the lonely, slightly cracked Bunker Hill monument. A federal grant will make possible the refurbishing of the downtown market buildings. But, Sam Adams' statue drips with bird dung beside Faneuil Hall, Ben Franklin's statue is green with tarnish, as is Washington's. John Hancock's house has been torn down, as was Franklin's, and virtually all the early Boston residences have perished except Paul Revere's, which has been cruelly disfigured by the carved initials of careless tourists. General Putnam's rambling farmhouse stands unmarked and undesignated, placidly overlooking the stone-walled rolling fields that Israel and the sons of Israel once tilled at Brooklyn, Connecticut. A tremendous tarnished equestrian statue stands atop his lonely grave on a side road, but no souvenirs of "old Put," Washington's favorite general, are available in Brooklyn, where he died in 1790, esteemed and worshipped by all.

What would they comment, could they survey today's frenetic, maddening world spawned by their fiery heritage and continually metamorphized by the conglomerate waves of penniless immigrants, all seeking golden streets?

Sitting in this pleasant sunroom at the new inn, relaxing under its palm trees and watching 12 Parma Center children frolic with delight in the pool, sauna and whirlpool occupying the site where Putnam once fought hand-to-hand and musing that where they bled, we swim, I am almost convinced that he would endorse two centuries later this living demonstration of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Following other Biblical injunctions, Americans of the first century after the Revolution repeatedly beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. In the second century, free spirits utilizing Man's human genius were able to broadcast God's words of creation from the moon. With pompous delight under these almost symbolic palm trees, Israel might prognosticate in his booming voice that even greater marvels surely await the inhabitants of this sweet land of liberty in our third century.

1775 was only the beginning.

## Military Service Roster

Known military burials in the town of Parma total 177, as of May 1, 1975.

### REVOLUTIONARY WAR

The list of Revolutionary veterans will probably never be complete.

### WAR OF 1812

This list is also incomplete. Virtually every man served.

### BLACK HAWK WAR

John Dibble, William Crowell.

### CIVIL WAR

Alonzo Merritt, Ambrose Sawyer, George Efner, Emsley Buell, Warren Firman, Theodore Barlow, William Teller, George Henry, Albert Horton, Samuel Thayer, Lyman Talmage, Charles Webster, John VanGieson, Franciscus Harrison, Henry Carpenter, Patrick Morarty, Charles Cook, James Hughes, Adelbert Beeman, Robert McKinney, Charles J. Tinker, Thera Trimble, Byron Trimble, Charles P. Tinker, Wheeler Sowls, George Raymond, James Parrinet, Marcus McDougal, Andrew Hicks, Warren Goodell, Theodore Sands, Edwin E. Bush, George Boomhower, W. C. Billings, Jerome Bence, Henry Bennett, John Bailey, Alonzo Barringer, Dexter Burritt, Elihu Bancroft, George Clark, Irving Collins, Alva Damly, Albert Gould, Seeley Hayford, Edward Hathaway, Duane Hiscock, Robert Logan, William Morris, Peter Patterson, Frank Sanders, John Wheeler, Andrew Wilson, F. W. Wright, Charles Young, Sidney Efner, Sidney Austin, William Miller, James Kavanaugh, Silas Hayford, David Wellman, John Wellman, William Trimmer, William Mulligan, Charles Stoneman, Philip Banger, James Hiscock, Henry Hontland, Albert Donehee, Byron Knowlton, Dudley Tinker, Nicholas Camp, Martin Welch, James Lapp, Hanford Bass, Edward Chittenden, William H. Brown, John Randolphs, Robert McKinney, Charles Miller, Adelbert Bass, John Webb, Alonzo Wright, Silas Wright, Charles Hayford, Levi Camp, William Buell, Nehemiah Billings, Perry Blackwell, George Buell, Robert McCullough, Charles Vancourt, C. H. French, Calvin French, Jr., Charles Gardner, H. Hazen, Manly Herrick, John Kirby, Chatman Kirby, James Ketch, Cyrus Lapp, Patrick McDonald, George Manchester, William McCullough, Daniel Meech, Arthur Newton, Guerdon Pendleton, John Reynolds, David Stairs, Seymour Stairs, Emerson Smith, Peter Tenny, Charles Taylor, James Welch, Patrick Welch, William Welch, Hiram Wright, Henry Williams, Lyman Wolcott, Edward Wadhams, Wesley Wood, Charles Coats, Henry Hill, Peter Bush, John Parker, Truman Miller, Jared Judd, David Allen, Elijah Burch, J. E. Cole, Charles Davis, Simeon Derider, Jarius Heath, William Henry, David Hull, Andrew Hiscock, Alfred Howard, J. J. Jackson, Richard Kine, William Kine, Anthony Lowles, Alvah Mills, Allen Merritt, George Olmstead, Andrew Robinson, William Trimmer, Charles Vaughn, Michael Berden, John Dorin, Shadrach Jackson, Harley Hazen, Samuel Hazen, Richard Kane, William Kane, Reuben Harmer, George Parker, Wm. Davis, Patrick Mulligan, Martin Randolph, Henry Losey, Zachary Coffin, Henry Randall, Walter Bronson, Howard Ketchum, Eugene Dutton, Charles Hathaway, Conrad Boomhower, Jacob Rosecrantz, H. G. Austin, Thomas Baldwin, Stephen Cronkhite, Edward Peck, Henry VanZile, Charles Webster, Thomas Baldwin, Calvin French, Thomas King, Martin Ruland, Henry Cook, George Cook, George Deyo, James Riley, William Coats, William Hunt, Stephen King, Peter Post, John Sweeting, John Servis, Acherman Vanderbeck, Alva Wynkoop, Edward Williams, John VanWormer, Andrew Robinson, Frank Huber, Ira Ruland, Henry Ruland, John Grover, John Vanderbeck, Daniel Vanderbeck, Leonard Sage, Charles Vahne, Barnabus Hynes, Isaac Hooper, Foster Smith, Thomas Darling, James Randolph, Albert Knowles, Robert McKenzie, Harry Wellman, George Gavett, Edward Chittenden, John Parish, Joseph Pease, Dalton Anderson, David Jackson, Abner Adams, William Henderson, Walter Bishop, John Clark, Ezra Annis, Thomas McDougal, James Burns, Louis Thayer, Isaac Brock, John Everson, Thomas Crow, William Benson, George Lester, William Bruce, Edward Case, Henry Harrison, Newton Bates, Samuel Holman, John Rendymaker.

### SPANISH AMERICAN WAR

Bert Hiscock, Bert DuColon, Fahy Holbrook, George Waldock, Albert Wilder, Raymond Bufton, Abram Babcock, Joseph A. Rausch, Mort B. Fox, Albert Irving, Charles M. Wade, D. A. Paulson.

### WORLD WAR I

Harold C. Adams, Lester Anderson, Elmer J. Bush, Willard Bush,\* Jack Bridgeman, Harry Beel, Roy L. Brown, Colonel Brown, Clarence Baxter,\* Earl W. Burritt, Andrew G. Bennett, Lewis Bennett, Lucius Bagley, George W. Bigger, John Harlan Cooper, George Clift, William Ira Clapper, John L. Crook, Fred Collins, Miles H. Corbitt, Raymond Corbitt, Kenneth Church, Victor Chattin, Clarence Davenport, Earl A. DuColon, Donald Donahue, Ralph Deroller, George H. Dean, Ray A. Fishbaugh, Glenn Fishbaugh,\* Cecil Barney, John A. Hundley, John Flemming, Samuel Flemming, Frank Flemming, Morley Hall, George Hiscock, Fred Hall, Lynn Hall, Avery Holman, George N. Hockbreckner, Eugene Higgs, Lester Hiscock,\* Foster Hiscock, Allan Hovey, Walton Hovey, Harold H. Ingraham, Frank Jamison, George Kirk, Fred Koss, Wilbur King, Champney Lee, Willard Lee, Harry Merkel, Raymond Merkel, George Miller, John Magee, Dr. Frank McCulla, Frank C. Able, William Taylor, James Nice, Daniel R. Slocum, Dr. Fred C. McCarty, Edgar R. Murrell,\* Douglas A. Newcomb, Carlyle B. Newcomb, Edwin Oviatt, S. Harold Oviatt, Homer C. Odell, Burton Perry, George Paulson, George Quinn,\* Frank Randall, Rev. Walter S. Ryder, George Rowley,\* Clarence Robinson, Elton B. Sleight, Vernon A. Sleight, Ross Di. Simon, Herman Skinner, Henry A. Smith, Arthur M. Smith, Floyd Sweeting,\* Thomas Sovia,\* Alfred Turgon, Kenneth Smith, Frederick Turgon, William V. Turgon, Frank Turgon, Charles B. Tubb, Arthur G. Wadsworth, Elmer Wadsworth, Willis W. Winters, F. L. Meech, Herman Wordon, Chester Williams, Lydon H. Wells, Gerald McIntyre.

\*Killed in action.

### WORLD WAR II

Donald C. Ainsworth, Milton G. Ainsworth, E. O. Alexander, Zita Anderson, Herbert L. Ashton, Earl Barney, Raymond Beehler, George Blair, Leon W. Blodgett, Willis G. Blodgett, Allen Blossom, Lyell Blossom, Arne Olsen



Bo, Edward Bo, Howard Bo, John Bo, Norman Bo, Raymond Bo, Kenneth L. Boylan, William K. Breckenridge, Hale Burch, Raymond E. Burdick, Richard M. Burdick, Charles F. Burke, Richard F. Burke, Charles Burnett, Jr., Roy E. Burns, Edwin Burritt, John B. Burritt, Lloyd W. Burritt, Warren Bronson, Judson S. Bronson, Charles E. Bronson, Harrison Bronson, Franklin Camp, Lester Campbell, Spencer Campbell, Lynn K. Carner, Robert Carpenter, Garfield Cornish, Herbert W. Carter, Joseph F. Case, James J. Castle, Albert Clark, Alton M. Clark, Walter Clark, William G. Clark, Donald Clement, Richard L. Clement, Frederick Clift, Maurice Coe, Richard L. Coe, George Collamer, Fred Collins, C. Harlan Cooper, Albert E. Cope, Albert E. Cosman, Ward Cosman, Bernard C. Cubitt, Alan Culverhouse, Edward F. Culverhouse, James Daily, William C. Dilger, Leon S. Doud, Abraham L. DuBois, James R. DuBois, Harvey Dunbar, Daniel Emerich, Jack Fitch, Donald Feil, Donald Flemming, \* Roy Fleming, Donald Foster, Edwin A. Foster, John R. Foster, Walter Foster, William J. Foster, Clarence A. Fouquet, Raymond Francis, Lawrence E. Frank, Howard C. Fraser, Arthur Fritz, Henry G. Gehle, Robert J. Gell, Archie German, Anthony Gioia, Joseph A. Gioia, Harry Gosnell, Kenneth Gosnell, Donald J. Haag, Allen B. Haskins, Vera Haslip, Allen S. Hazen, George Healey, Robert K. Heffron, Carl G. Heinrich, Gordon V. Helm, Leland Hendershot, Henry F. Hendricks, Kenneth Herbstsommer, John Herring, Edmund J. Hochbrueckner, Bartley Frank Horton, Jr., Charles E. Howie, Gordon Howie, William A. Howie, Edward L. Hoyt, \* Martin Hueser, Floyd Huff, Fred Huff, George Huff, Glen E. Huglemair, Grover F. Hugelmaier, Lloyd Hugelmaier, Johnson Hubbell, Francis Hundley, Dayton L. Hunn, David M. Ide, Edwin J. Ingham, George E. Ingham, Ray Ingham, Jr., Robert Ingham, Robert Ingraham, George Jacobson, John A. Jensen, Raymond Jacobson, John Jacobson, Alfred Jensen, Howard E. Johncox, Robert W. Johnston, Charles G. Jostmeier, William H. Jostmeier, Elwood Kanous, Bernard Kedian, John Kedian, Charles R. Keller, Jr., Joseph R. Kelley, \* Allen W. Kendrick, Randall Kenyon, Norman R. Kerrison, John D. Klock, Nicholas Kiesel, Alfred Kruger, Alexis D. Laisney, Jack Lambert, Raymond Lewis, Charles E. Lissow, Harry Lortz, John R. Lowden, David J. Ludlow, \* Robert L. Ludlow, Freda Machen, Herbert W. MacNaughton, Albert Marlowe, Earl W. Marlowe, George Martin, Thomas H. Massam, Wm. Matteson, John D. Maxwell, Martin J. Maxwell, William H. Maxwell, Fred E. Mayer, Gordon C. Mayes, Floyd McClellan, Alfred McCracken, Kenneth McHugh, Alvin McMann, Gordon McMann, Donald Merritt, Leslie W. Merritt, Addison Miller, Gordon Miller, Homer E. Miller, Raymond Miller, Robert C. Miller, Raymond E. Morrill, Gerald Mullen, John E. Mullen, \* William R. Murphy, Whitney Mason Nesbitt, Arthur W. Newman, Harold W. Newman, Raymond Nicloy, James Panarites, Nicholas Panarites, Donald C. Parker, Richard Parker, Richard Parr, Thurber Parr, \* Elwyn Paxson, Leon E. Pease, Gerald M. Peck, Milford V. Peck, Floyd Piper, John L. Radford, Walter Renckert, Ruth Ricci, J. Merle Richards, Donald M. Roach, Edward H. Roberts, Gordon H. Roller, Richard Roller, Jr., Bernard A. Rood, Homer Rowles, Cyril A. Rowley, David Ryan, James J. Ryan, John R. Ryan, Glenn I. Salisbury, Carl E. Sankel, Jack G. Sankel, Walter Schafer, George Schlaffer, Jr., Raymond Schoff, Richard Schoff, Vincent A. Scholand, Clair E. Schultz, William E. Schultz, Frank J. Schwenk, William J. Sehm, Walter Shafer, William A. Shell, Milo Simmons, Charles B. Skinner, Earl Slater, Donald Smith, Edward J. Smith, Evan A. Smith, Harold Smith, Jr., Walter L. Smith, Stanley D. Soules, Herman H. Southcott, David Spencer, Henry M. St. George, Walter J. Southcott, Frank H. Stackman, LaVergne Stothard, Frederick N. Struck, \* Robert D. Sweeny, Eleanor Taber, Arthur Taylor, Herbert P. Tenny, Donald E. Tighe, George F. Tillich, Herbert A. Tillich, Roy N. Tillich, Charles B. Tubb, Jr., Albert Allen Turgon, Vernon Tyner, Charles VanGee, Herbert VanGraafeiland, Donald C. VanVechten, Raymond C. Veness, Harvey W. Walters, Kenneth Walter, Norman H. Wallace, Charles Wannike, Alton E. Warner, Donald Warren, Harold Warren, Howard Webster, Edward Weekes, Wm. L. Wheeler, Raymond C. Whyland, Peter Wido, Harmon Wietz, Harold B. Wilkinson, Howard R. Wilson, Ralph Wilson, Willet J. Wood, Alfred E. Woodams, Robert M. Woodams, Martin B. Wright, Roscoe Wright.

\* Died During Service or Killed in Action.

(Other World War II servicemen now buried in Parma cemeteries are: Carl E. Carlson, Jr.; Thomas Steele, Jr.; George E. Kerrison, Robert G. Dean, Harmon F. Wietz, Floyd G. Van Orden.)

#### KOREA

This list incomplete.

For the period from June 27, 1950–January 31, 1955, official dates for Korean duty, only three Parma burials exist: Lloyd L. Curtis, Ernest H. Mowers, Jr., Neil Anthony Rood.

#### VIET NAM

Service from August 5, 1964 to the present (Spring, 1975) constitutes Viet Nam duty.

David E. Lemcke, Ronald Gene Quinn, John L. Waugh, Gerald A. Wilson died in military service. Michael L. Duell died at home.

☆ ☆ ☆

### LINES SUGGESTED BY THE GRAVES OF TWO ENGLISH SOLDIERS ON CONCORD BATTLEGROUND

*"These men were brave enough and true  
To the hired soldiers' bull-dog creed;  
What brought them here they never knew  
They fought as suits the English breed:  
They came three thousand miles and died  
To keep the past upon its throne—  
Unheard, beyond the ocean tide,  
Their English mother made her moan."  
James Russell Lowell*



## About the Author . . .

A native of Parma Center, Town Historian Shirley Cox Husted has an avid interest in local history. Valedictorian of the Class of 1949, Hilton Central School, she was graduated "Cum Laude" from Roberts Wesleyan College in 1953 and spent the following year as a special student in comparative theology at Colgate-Rochester Divinity School.

For 20 years, Mrs. Richard Husted was assistant editor of *The Hilton Record*. Her first book: "Pioneer Days in Hilton, Parma and Ogden" was published in 1959 in conjunction with the Parma Sesquicentennial Celebration, which she initiated and helped organize. In 1960, she supervised the transition of the *Suburban News* from an advertising shopper to a news and shopping guide which subsequently won state awards. In 1970-71 she was the only full-time staff person in the Monroe County Sesquicentennial Office, the second public celebration which she had helped to inspire. In that capacity, she co-edited "Preface to Tomorrow," a brief history of Monroe County.

Upon her appointment as Monroe County Historian in 1973, she became the local liason of the New York State Office of History as well as a county official and representative of the New York State Education Department. In 1974 she was appointed chairman of Parma's bicentennial committee, and by resolution of the County Legislature, appointed to the Rochester-Monroe County Bicentennial Committee.

Active in state, county and local Republican women's organizations, she served two years as state delegate-at-large to the Council of the New York State Federation of Republican Women's Clubs. Formerly organist at Parma Center Presbyterian Church and Parma-Greece United Church of Christ, she has six children (Ted, Donald, Christopher, Brian, Brett and Rosemary) attending the schools of the Hilton Central system.

She edits the *County Historians' Association Tidings*, a newsletter for county historians, publishes the quarterly newsletter *Monroe County Mercury*, and holds membership in many state and local historical societies. With her sister, Village Historian Leith Wright, she helped to organize the Parma-Hilton Historical Society. She considers her most important accomplishment to be the creation of the Town of Parma historical archives at Parma Town Hall.



## About the Illustrator . . .

David Charles Abbott was born in Amsterdam, N.Y. and lived there until 1963, when he enrolled in Rochester Institute of Technology's Graphic Design Program. Graduating in 1968 with a Master of Fine Arts Degree in Communications Design from R.I.T., he became a publications designer for the college in the Public Relations Department.

In 1969, he became a Producer/Designer for the Media Production Center at R.I.T. The center produces audiovisual programs and material for the various departments within the Institute.

Two years ago, he began drawing scenes of military history. Currently, he is developing watercolor paintings and silkscreen prints devoted to the regiments and military units of the American Revolutionary War.

David married Mary Ann Martillotta of Albion, N.Y., a teacher and soft sculpture artist in the Rochester area. They live in Avon, N.Y.



## Acknowledgements

This publication would not have been possible without the support of Supervisor John F. Jennejohn and Parma Town Board, with the assistance of Barber B. Conable and his staff in Washington, D.C. and the payroll pension, military and bounty land research from James Walker and the National Archives.

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Heartfelt gratitude goes to Grace Witty for her painstaking index of Northampton Records and Dr. Samuel Beach Bradley's diaries and the picture of Ebenezer Utter, Jr.; to Parma-Hilton Historical Society for its cemetery survey, Thomas Burger, chairman; to Leith Wright, Hilton Village Historian, for Downs, Wright, Utter, Henry and Putnam data; to Pearl Smith for King family data and the use of the D.A.R. library of Irondequoit Chapter, to Robert and Katherine Thompson for sharing the history of Tolland, Connecticut; Eugene Beach, Silver Springs, Maryland, for Beach family records; Mrs. Charles J. Edmunds, Farmersville Station, N.Y. and Lee Lane of Penfield for Lane records; Phillip E. Bedient, Lancaster, Pennsylvania; Blanche Rowley, Choteau, Montana; Ruth Kidder, Dixfield, Maine and Ruth Collyer for Atchinson family records; Charles Bush for genealogy of the Bush family; Tom Burger and Mary Smith for Chase information Elizabeth Hurlbutt, Elmer Ladue and Elmer Wolf from for photographs.

Virginia Barons shared the records at Holland Land Office, other information came from the Monroe County Historian's files, Parma Town Clerk and Parma Historian's archives, Emily Ann Hazen Wright's memoirs, Charles Efner's memoirs, Albert Hazen Wright's family genealogy of the Wright family, "The Sullivan Expedition of 1779, Regimental Rosters of Men" and "The Sullivan Expedition of 1779, Contemporary Newspaper Comment." Colonel John Elting of the Company of Military Historians generously provided information on uniform details.

This mere recital of names cannot possibly capture even a fraction of the true excitement and pleasure I experienced as I studied their collections and viewed original documents and pictures. My task was lightened by the encouragement and the enthusiasm of my family, the publisher and an extremely talented and meticulous illustrator.

My sincere gratitude to everyone who assisted in any way with this delightful project.



